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CONTENTS.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

Leading Articles:
Corea and the Koreans.
Trade in Two Treaty Ports.
Japan's New Scheme.
An Assertion and its Refutation.
Manufacturing Criminals in Hongkong.
"Are We Disheartened?"
The Cleric in Korea.
Another Cleric.

Telegrams:

Shanghai Friction.
Chinese Reform.
Corean Pirates.
The Vladivostok Riots.
The Dewey Dock.
The Shanghai Riot.
Morphine for China.

Meetings:

Legislative Council.
Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.
Sanitary Board.

Legal Intelligence:

Money-lender in Court.
Executor and his Rent.
Bankrupt Bank.
"Settled, my Lord."
Hongkong Appeal Case.

Poll:

Assaulting his Master.
Alleged Kidnapping.
A Cruise against a Bank.
Peak Coolies.
Kowloon City Armed Robbers.

Correspondence:

Nuisance in Queen's Road East.

Miscellaneous Articles and Reports:

Queensland Commissioner.
Property Sale.
For Chinese Reformers.
Gymkhana Notes.
Yarn Supply.
San Francisco Earthquake.
P. & O. Company's Prosperity.
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited.
Fatal Accident in Hongkong.
Daring Daylight Robbery.
A Guide to Canton and Macao.
Fun on the Tramcar.
The Unlucky Thief.
Hongkong Volunteer Reserve Association.
Prize Fight.
Chinese Actors for Manila.
The Plague Joss in Amoy.
Converts and Cowards.
Funeral of Mr. Cowen.
The Price of Coal.
The Kobe and Osaka Harbour Schemes.
The Korean Rising.
Exciting Scenes in Singapore.
An Unfortunate Coolie.
The Late Mr. H. M. Bevis.
The P. & O. Intermediate Service.
Seamen's Missions.
Commercial:
Yarn Market.
Indo-China.
Rauß Gold Mine.
Exchange.
Opium.
Local and General.

BIRTHS.

At Hankow, on 2nd June, to the Rev. and Mrs. LOUIS BVADE, Church Missionary Society, Yungchow, Hunan, a daughter.
On June 13th, at "Meirion," The Peak, Mrs. E. JONES HUGHES, a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 30th May, at Wuhu HARRY BERTRAM EMERSON to ELISE RISTARICK, eldest daughter of Capt. Johns, Indo-China Steam Navigation Co.
On 5th June, at Chefoo, JOHN HOWARD STOOKE to ALICE MARY BALLER.

DEATHS.

At Shanghai, KARL ERNST LUDWIG, only son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Fink. Aged 10.
At Ramsgate, on 5th June, SIDNEY DILLON SHALLARD, late Commander P. & O. Co.'s Service, Aged 75.
On 2nd May, in London, LUCIE, the wife of the Rev. W. Nelson Bilton of the London Mission, Shanghai.

The Hongkong Telegraph

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.
ISSUED GRATIS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1906.

COREA AND THE KOREANS.

(11th June.)

Bitter as is the attitude of the Koreans towards their conquerors the Japanese, and resentful as they may be at the protectorate which Japan, supported by Great Britain, has established over their country, the more progressive of the natives are yet alive to the value of exploiting the Kingdom. They may feign anger at Japan's ways and methods, but they are not above taking a leaf from the book of the islanders. As everybody knows, when Japan decided to emerge from the seclusion of centuries and take her rightful place in the world, one of

the first things she did was to foster and encourage the visits of foreigners to "Dai Nippon." The people charmed the casual tourist, who afterwards dismounted upon the beauties of the country, the charm of the scenery, the politeness of the people and all the rest of it. There was nothing like Japan, and it would one day be a great country. All these verbal praises and magazine articles did more to bring Japan into notice than half-a-dozen bagmen could have achieved in double the time. One of the features which struck the foreigner in Japan was the cleanliness of the people and their love of order. It would seem that the people of the Hermit Kingdom are now desirous of curbing the increasing power of their protectors by endeavouring to induce Westerners to visit the country, and with this object modern hotels are rising in Seoul, while the distrust of the people in the foreigner's good faith is rapidly vanishing. But while Korea is no doubt coming forward as a visitor's paradise, it seems that the quick-time excursionist is apt to be painfully impressed by the squalor of the surroundings in which the Koreans exist, the dirty habits of the people, the barrenness of the fields and the general air of neglect presented by the country. Moreover, the natives are said to be not always so gracious as the stranger coming from Japan would naturally expect. On the other hand the missionaries and others who have lived in Korea for years see none of these things. They are strongly pro-Corean, and protest with vigour against the adverse criticisms of the tourist; so that we have the spectacle of one side being in rhapsodies while the other hurls denunciations. The *Korea Daily News* takes up the budgets in favour of the Kingdom, and offers a reasonable solution of the difficulty. One of the features of Korea, the writer remarks, is the unhappy faculty of the people, the cities and the landscape to present themselves in the worst possible light to newcomers and transient visitors. New arrivals receive the impression that the Koreans are an idle, invertebrate, thriftless and helpless lot. But, all this, we are told, is largely on the surface. It is true that an amazing number of men at Seoul appear to spend their time in aimlessly loitering and strolling about the streets, but they really form a very small portion of the population, and the average Korean working man, in the opinion of the writer, is equal to the Japanese coolie in intelligence and industry, and superior to him in manners. It is alleged that the people are dirty. Well, says our contemporary, it must be admitted that the clothes of the people are in the majority of cases very dirty, but then, it is pleaded, it must be remembered that, as they are generally white or of some very light colour, they show all the dirt. Colourful clothes get quite as dirty but do not show. As a matter of fact, the journal quoted asserts, there is probably not a country in the world where clothes are washed so often. So that question is disposed of; the people's clothes are dirty, but then they are always at the wash, and probably the idea is that the average tourist only sees the coolies just when the clean garments are being expected back—betwixt the dusk and the dawn, so to speak. With regard to the squalid houses, we are told that, with curious perversity, the houses are designed to present their worst features to the street. Privacy for himself and his women-folk being the principal desideratum with a well-to-do Korean, his dwelling is placed as far from the street as possible, while between his house and the street are the servants' quarters, the meanest of them being next to the street. Of course, that is unfortunate for Korea, because first impressions are generally lasting, and the visitor is seldom likely to have an opportunity of exploring the interior of the house of a Korean gentleman who wishes to hide behind a bulwark of out-houses. The country is declared to be rich agriculturally, as the tourist may see for himself if he will only digress from the beaten track. The Koreans have many beautiful qualities if the trouble is taken to find them out, but, of course, the foreigner is in such a hurry to get over the ground in the least possible time that he fails to understand the significance of all he sees. We take it that the *Argus* in its championship of the country and the people is performing a patriotic task, but there seems to be no doubt that what is wanted in Korea is education and energy. Once the people realise the value of education they will naturally betake themselves to modern methods of industry and cast off that lethargy and coma which are the bane of national life. While the newspaper's defence on this occasion is not wholly convincing it shows that there is much hope for the country in the immediate future, which is all that one could desire.

TRADE IN TWO TREATY PORTS.

(11th June.)

Several consular reports dealing with the trade of various treaty ports in China have been received by the latest mail from Europe, but, from the standpoint of Hongkong readers, probably the most interesting are those which refer in particular to Swatow and Hankow. The Consul for Swatow, Mr. Willis, notes that the recent development of the trade at that port has been satisfactorily maintained during 1905, and the table showing the gross trade for the past ten years emphatically bears out his statement. In 1896 the sterling value of Swatow's trade was £4,888,672; last year the value had risen to £7,386,388, so that if it continues at the present rate of increase the next annual report will show that the gross export and import trade of Swatow has doubled within a decade. Mr. Willis observes that the

fluctuations of sterling exchange have been confined within narrower limits and marked a higher level than in the previous year, with the result that the position of importers of Manchester goods and other materials, based on sterling valuations, has been improved, in spite of a very considerable drop in the value of Indian opium imported, and, consequently, the total imports of foreign origin show an advance on any previous year. In the shipping returns it is noteworthy that of the total import of £2,938,480 no less than a value of £2,814,908 was carried in British bottoms, which is highly satisfactory from the British point of view. The export trade of Swatow also shows improvement, although there has been a progressive decline in the production of local sugar, the northern markets evincing a decided preference for the Java sugar turned out by the Hongkong refiners. Of the exports, about 45 per cent. goes to foreign countries, mainly Hongkong, Siam, and the Straits. The emigration tables (says the Consul) show a slight falling-off in emigrants to Siam, the Straits Settlements and Sumatra. The Swatow coolie is, however, by far the most important local export, and there is no doubt that the earnings remitted by the Chinese abroad affect most materially the purchasing power of the district. It is observed that the Norddeutscher Lloyd possess the monopoly of the Bangkok trade, but before the next report appears we may expect to find a decided change in the figures, now that the Osaka Shosen Kaisha have entered the field with a line of steamers running regularly between Hongkong, Bangkok and Swatow. According to the emigration returns for 1905, 71,419 coolies arrived at Swatow from Hongkong, as against 61,980 in the previous year; the departures from Swatow to this port were 13,245 last year as compared with 13,738 in 1904. That means, of course, that in leaving Swatow the coolies go by steamers direct to the Straits, Siam and Saigon and return by steamers which touch at Hongkong. The total number of arrivals was 91,660 while 107,456 left for new fields of labour. Turning now to the report on the trade of Hankow for the period under review, we find a vastly different state of things. The figures of the gross trade show a great diminution as compared with former years. The state of the money market has interfered with the demand for foreign goods, and "for British trade especially the year cannot be considered favourable." Mr. Consul-General Fraser makes it very clear that the Chinese in the Hankow district have a very pronounced objection to foreign trade, an objection which has been strengthened by the recent outcry for the recovery of China's sovereign rights. The feeling is that foreigners have taken advantage of China's inexperience to obtain undue advantages to enrich themselves, and the result is that all treaties, agreements, etc., must be construed against the foreigner with the utmost strictness. Japan, however, is *bona fide*, and Japanese hawkers are found everywhere. In shipping Britain retained her position, both in the foreign and coast trade, while Japan and Norway gained at the expense of China and Germany. In Hankow as well as in Swatow there is an increasing demand for Hongkong refined sugar, and a curious reason is given by the Consul-General for the decrease in the supply from Swatow. "It is also asserted," he says, "that the Swatow farmers find the growing of vegetables for their countrymen in the Straits Settlements a more profitable employment of their land." But why go to the Straits when Hongkong is ravenous for cheap vegetables? It would be thought that Swatow could land vegetables at a cheaper rate in Hongkong than in Singapore, but apparently such is not the case. Probably the reason is that vessels go from Hongkong to the Straits via Swatow which makes all the difference in the world.

JAPAN'S NEW SCHEME.

Nothing could exceed the widespread energy of Japan in seeking to develop the new territories in the North which have come within her sphere of influence as the result of her success in the late war, and although that energy is distributed over a great extent of country there seems to be no diffusion of force or loss of power. The scheme of development which has been followed in Korea is being carried on simultaneously in Manchuria, or, at least, in that section of China which fell under Japan's influence when the Russians withdrew to the westward. Naturally, considerable jealousy has been aroused in certain chancelleries because Japan should have proved her title conclusively to be described as the Britain of the Far East, but, withal, it has to be admitted that the new insular Power has shown a capacity to take advantage of opportunities and frame schemes of development which might well give some Continental nations pause for thought. Not only that, but Japan has shown that theory and practice go together; these schemes of development have been and are being pushed on with all the speed commensurate with sound progress. Immediately after the war, Japan gave supreme attention to the condition of affairs prevailing in Korea. And a pretty muddle her statesmen found in the Hermit Kingdom. The counsellors of Korea had been content to remain in the slough of inaction for centuries; they desired no intercourse with the outer world, Russia made little or no attempt to awaken this modern Sleepy Hollow, and it was not until the Japanese arrived on the scene that the Koreans came to realise the fact that their dictionary was void of several essential words of quite modern invention, signifying "hustle" and "push." Now that

a stable government seems to have been established at Seoul, the Japanese are bending their energies to the regeneration of the immensely fertile tracts of Southern Manchuria which is now under their direction. The new Premier of Japan, Marquis Saloni, has just returned from a tour of inspection in Manchuria and has submitted certain proposals to the Elder Statesmen for the development of the country which are eminently worthy of consideration. These schemes, we are told, have been approved by the State Council. Briefly, it is proposed that a company should be formed by the Government and private capitalists jointly for working and developing the railways, mines and forests, etc., in Manchuria. The Government will contribute the railways, mines and other property owned in Manchuria, as its share in the company, and the value of these properties, as they now stand, is estimated at about 70,000,000 yen. As a working fund would be required, the total capital of the company could not be less than 100,000,000 yen. In addition, an enormous fund is necessary for the improvement of the railway system and the mines, and it is proposed to raise a loan of 100,000,000 yen on the security of the company's property. There is no indication whether the working capital would be open to foreign investors, and in view of sundry statements which have lately been made by Japanese statesmen and the general policy of the Government it is obvious that every endeavour will be made to raise the capital in Japan to the exclusion of foreign investors. This may be deemed a selfish policy, but it is certainly a patriotic one. The loan to be raised is put at a hundred million yen, but clearly the value of the property is immensely greater than that amount; it is colossal. The railways are only in their infancy; the extent of the mineral deposits is unknown—the pick has only scratched the surface as yet. The State Council also formulated two principles which should guide Japanese operations in Manchuria. They run:

That the sovereignty of China in Manchuria should be respected, giving equal opportunity to all the Powers, and joint enterprises of Japanese and Chinese should be encouraged for the development of Manchuria.

That the principle of military supremacy should be avoided, so that the natives might be convinced of the sincerity of Japan's intentions towards China.

Surely, that is the height of shrewdness, for such a declared policy disarms criticism. It would be tilting at a windmill to suggest that Japan was swallowing the plums of victory. The sovereignty of China in Manchuria is respected, which is good. But the far-sightedness which suggested that the principle of military supremacy should be avoided is the crowning act of diplomatic acumen. The *Japan Chronicle* simply says that if the policy of military supremacy were adhered to, the Powers might have misgivings as to Japan's intentions. But by adopting this second rule Japan merely proclaims that the Empire stands in *loca parentis* to China so far as Manchuria is concerned. The *Chronicle* adds: "As agitations are afoot in China for the recovery of autonomy and the boycott of American goods, Japan's pursuance of military supremacy in Manchuria would only result in benefiting a certain commercial country, and give an opportunity to two certain European Powers to cultivate better relations with China." That is somewhat obscure, but we take it the writer means Germany in the first instance, and France and Russia in the second. From all this it will be seen that Japan has the whole scheme out and dried, and will pursue it with the same undeviating energy as she displayed in the late war, and we should say, with the same success. It is a great country whose statesmen possess the power both to formulate and to execute.

AN ASSERTION AND ITS REFUTATION.

(13th June.)

Some weeks ago, the American transport *McLellan*, which, in company with the *Kilpatrick*, was conveying troops from New York to Manila, arrived at Singapore in a disabled condition. Seizing an opportunity for testing the capabilities of the Tanjong Pagar docks, a newspaper representative in the Southern Settlement inquired of a Naval engineer officer whether it was intended to dock the *McLellan* at Singapore in order to effect the repairs which the vessel obviously needed. The answer was that the American Naval Authorities would not dream of doing so because the charges were prohibitive; and he went on to say, as if officially inspired, that the work could be done more cheaply in an American yard than was possible either in Singapore—or Hongkong. That was a very serious reflection on the tariff of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company—leaving Singapore out of the question for the moment—and, naturally, there was a chorus of protest against the suggestion that the Far Eastern dock companies and particularly the local Company were nothing more or less than vampires, who fattened on the misfortunes of their neighbours. The idea was not merely absurd; it was preposterous, for it has been the boast and the pride of the staff of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company that they could turn out vessels and effect repairs at a cost which would compare favourably with any yard in England or Scotland and was certainly below that of any yard in America, where the high wages paid to artisans nullified any advantage that might result from home services. A correspondent, writing in the *Hongkong Telegraph* under the pen-name of "Shareholder," soundly denied the assertion of the American Naval officer, and

maintained that it behoved the authorities of our repairing yard to remove the stigma attaching to the Company. He added:—"If the unenviable notoriety given to our dock establishments of their high charges is, however, equally behoves the Company's directors to exercise their energy to set before the American Naval Authorities a correct appreciation of the facts that the local estimates are framed within reason, and the charges are governed by current rates ruling in the markets of the East." Considering that the American Navy had been amongst the best constituents of the Company the declaration that their charges were excessive was of serious import not merely to the shareholders but also to the Colony, whose interests are to a large extent bound up in the prosperity of the Company. It was a most damaging allegation and should be refuted immediately. Now, the *McLellan* was not an ocean marvel in prime condition. She had been laid up in New York out of commission for three years. When it was decided to send her to Manila with troops \$25,000 (gold) was spent upon her in order to fit her for sea, and most of that money was expended on the boilers and machinery. From the moment she left New York she was in constant difficulties; she broke down repeatedly and caused the utmost anxiety; she was repaired at every port touched at en route; the boilers were never to be depended upon for a single moment. How she ever got to Manila at all is a marvel to every one who had anything to do with her. She was costing money at every stage, although she had been overhauled in New York, and this was the vessel which could not be repaired in Hongkong on account of the excessive dock charges. "Shareholder," called upon the directors and staff to make an effort to secure the work of repairing the vessel if only to prove that the garrulity of an irresponsible officer was utterly unwarranted. The *Singapore Free Press*, following our lead, warmly contested the statement that the *McLellan* could not have been docked there and repaired at a reasonable cost. There is now good reason to believe that, despite the remarks of the officer referred to, the work of repairing the transport will be given to Hongkong. The *Cablenews* of the 6th inst. says:—"It is very probable that the repairs to the transport *McLellan*, which is now anchored in Manila Bay, will be made in Hongkong, provided that Manila contractors are unable to do the work." The last clause would seem to indicate that Manila contractors do not fancy the job, because they have not the appliances and machinery at their command. The docks in Manila are not equipped with the superb plant that lies to hand over at Kowloon—plant which is able to meet all the requirements of a British battleship, as was evidenced in the case of the *Albatross* last year, when the feat of dismounting and replacing the heaviest guns on board in record time elicited the wonder and praise of our finest Naval engineering yards in Great Britain. It is said that new furnaces will have to be supplied the *McLellan*, and says the writer: "At the present time, according to the statements of contractors, there are no furnaces of sufficient capacity in the Orient, and it may be necessary to send to England for them." Well, when the *McLellan* comes to Hongkong we shall see about that. The Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company has not failed to rise to any emergency yet and it will be strange if they fail now. The report proceeds: "The estimated cost for the repairs is \$65,000 and the military authorities have cabled to the Secretary of War for permission to advertise for bids. As it is impossible for the *McLellan* to return to the United States in her present condition, it is believed that the Secretary of War will appropriate the money and authorize the advertising for the bids for repairs." We are perfectly confident that when the bids are opened it will be found that the charges of ship-repairing yards in the Orient are not excessive, that those of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company are lowest of all, that the work will be accomplished in a manner which will earn the enormous sum of American shipbuilding and ship-repairing companies, and that a complete refutation will be given to the individual who set himself up as the mouth-piece of the American Naval Authorities.

MANUFACTURING CRIMINALS IN HONGKONG.

Our attention has been directed to a distinct and serious hardship which falls on Police Court offenders as the result of the anomalous coinage system of Hongkong. We are not referring to the case of vicious criminals who deserve all the punishment they get, but to those who have contravened, unwittingly it may be, some of the Municipal by-laws, and are convicted and mulcted in a small fine. The case occurred yesterday and may be briefly outlined. A contractor or merchant in a small way of business at Quarry Bay allowed a truck to obstruct the roadway. He was brought before the Magistrate and fined \$10 with the option, we understand, of a month's imprisonment. The man was a perfectly respectable individual, working hard to make both ends meet. When removed from the Court he stated that he would pay his fine, and tendered a \$5 note and \$5 in small money, 50-cent pieces bearing the King's head. The sheriff informed him that the banknote would be accepted, but he had instructions to refuse any subsidiary coinage exceeding \$2. That is to say, unless the contractor, or whatever he was, could produce another \$5 in bills, he would be marched off to gaol. The unfortunate victim of a ridiculous rule

protested that he had no friends at hand and no more money. He was on the point of being led through the prison gates when a kind-hearted bystander came forward and tendered a \$5 note accepted the subsidiary coinage in return. The man was then liberated. But surely it is an extraordinary state of affairs when a resident in Hongkong, daily accustomed to consider that ten 50-cent pieces bearing the head of our sovereign lord the King is equal to \$5, should be liable to be incarcerated as a common felon simply because some jackanapes has laid down an absurd rule. The man had the money to pay his fine—nobody can deny that, but because it was not the exact type of money—although it is the money in currency all over Hongkong—which the Magistrate desires, he stood the chance of being branded as a criminal of the deepest dye, and, what is more, of finding, after serving his period of imprisonment, that his business had gone to rack and ruin in his absence. It is all very well to say that the Post Office will have nothing but Hongkong money, but those who go to post letters have time to hunt for that *rara avis* a Hongkong 20-cent piece. And it may be admitted that the Post Office has a right to guard itself against loss. But a convicted person—and this was a trivial case—whose offer of notes and subsidiary coin is rejected, stands in a different position. It is rank injustice to send a man to prison under such circumstances. It is against all the tenets of British rule. It brings British law into contempt, and it demoralises the aliens, the Chinese that is to say, who have been accustomed to look upon British money stamped with the head of King Edward or Queen Victoria as beyond reproach. It is to be hoped that this absurd rule will be repealed at once for the sake of the Colony's reputation, and we trust that His Excellency the Governor will see fit to reform out of existence this pettifoggery principle, which must have been born in the back yard of hide-bound, tape-ridden officialdom. We have plenty of criminals in Hongkong already without manufacturing them within the precincts of the Magistracy.

"ARE WE DISHEARTENED?"

(14th June.)

A somewhat disquieting report, which will be hailed with glee by Tariff Reformers and Protectionists alike, has been issued by the Board of Trade with reference to the trade of Great Britain with China as contrasted with the openings secured by Germany and the United States. The report is described as a "return, showing so far as can be stated, the exports to China, inclusive of Hongkong, from the United Kingdom, Germany and the United States for the years 1885 to 1904, and the average for each of the quinquennial periods ending 1889, 1894, 1898, and 1904," with percentages. It should be stated that although the United Kingdom has not lost ground, having, on the contrary, steadily increased her export trade to China since 1885, her competitors have been making great efforts to capture the China market, and while the results of that competition need not cause dismay—for Great Britain is well ahead of all rivals—the figures are the straw which shows how the wind blows. Without burdening the reader with a mass of details, it may be stated that during the first quinquennial period 1885-89, the average annual value of the exports sent to China by the United Kingdom was £8,303,000; the figures for Germany were impossible to get; the United States sent goods to the value of £1,912,000. For the five years ending 1894 the average value of the exports despatched to China by the United Kingdom was £7,698,000; Germany sent goods to the value of £1,544,000; and the United States, £2,065,000. There was a slight rise during the following five years, Great Britain sending goods valued at £7,994,000 to China; Germany, £2,117,000; and the United States, £3,155,000. But it was during the last five years 1900 to 1904, that the manufacturers of the United Kingdom woke up to the fact that unless they redoubled their efforts to cater for Chinese requirements, and adopted more advanced methods, they would be left behind in the race for Chinese patronage. In 1900, Britain sent goods to the value of £8,339,000 to China; in 1904 that amount had advanced to £13,146,000—a truly notable increase. It was in the beginning of the present century that the Prince of Wales, addressing a group of London merchants, gave them the war cry—"Wake up, England." Certainly those manufacturers who had a connection with China followed the advice given by His Royal Highness. The average annual value of Great Britain's exports to China between 1900-4 was £9,912,000; Germany, £3,804,000; and the United States, £5,320,000. What will surprise most people is the comparatively small advance made by Germany—small in comparison with the general estimates of German trade in the Far East, while the increase of American trade with China is amazing. They had discovered a new field. From puny shopkeepers they have become notable exporters. They challenged, rivalled, and surpassed Germany in the rush for Chinese trade. The percentages will best indicate the state of affairs during the past ten years. The average annual increase during the five years ending 1904 as compared with 1894 was—United Kingdom 29.2; Germany, 81.8; United States, 157.6. That speaks volumes for the energy and vigour of American enterprise in China. To a certain extent, however, these figures are misleading. The return shows the exports to China from the United Kingdom, but

what about the exports from the great British Colonies of Australia, New Zealand and Canada? What about the exports from India to China? They are not declining. Indeed, their output is increasing with every round of the sun, so that although the percentage of exports to China from the old country looks miserable in comparison with the gigantic strides made by America, we can afford to ask with a confident spirit the question of the moment—“Are we disheartened?” well knowing that the answer will be in the negative.

THE CLERIC IN KOBE.

A ministerial humorist is always a mysterious and wonderful being. Nobody can tell or imagine when he will exhibit the “saving grace,” or what subject will be brightened and made lucid by his phantasies. The Anglican communion has been rich in men who could jest on serious matters, men like Sydney Smith and Dean Stanley, while Dean Swift was one of these who hid his biting shafts of cynicism under the garb of innocent folly. But these men of the past were mere hot-blooded boys compared with the Anglican minister at Kobe, for if a letter which appeared in a recent number of the *Kobe Herald* is authentic then the Rev. J. W. Platt is the Joe Grimaldi, the Quin and the Theodore Hook of the Far East. There was a bazaar at All Saints' Church, and it apparently proved a huge success. Now, a grateful pastor could hardly do less than return thanks to those who helped to make the bazaar a paying concern; the difficulty was to do so in a unique and quite original fashion. The Rev. Mr. Platt was equal to the occasion. He sat down in his study in All Saints' Parsonage, and concocted an epistle which should make the professional priest writhe with envy. First he said he hardly knew how to thank them—quite a conventional beginning; then he hinted that God would remember them; and then he thanked “my committee.” Coming now to the livelier part of his discourse he thanked “those who toiled for months and whose work lay at the latter end.” Presumably the reverend gentleman meant those who, after working hard for nothing, found that the public had no use for their amazing gew-gaws and ruddy acted the part of the Levite and passed them by. The Rev. Mr. Platt proceeded to thank those who bought and those who sold—or were sold—but the latter are perhaps more in need of a prayer than a blessing; and then he returned thanks “to those who danced and those who sung and played; to those who, not being able, did neither; to those who ventured life and limb in the motor-car, and to him who fetched them safely home without harm saving to the pocket; and, last of all, to our good friend who knocked down no end of pot plants without breaking any of them; thanks to you all my good friends.” Now we do not desire to appear uncharitable, in the least, but if that series of thanks does not suggest that the proceedings became uproarious and ended up with what sailors term a “rough house” then deductions are worth nothing. They danced, they ventured life and limb in “the motor-car,” that is to say the motor-car attached to the Parsonage, they spent money en route to their homes—which everyone can interpret as he pleases—and finally one obstreperous individual fell through the conservatory a second or Korean edition of Handy Andy. Now, we have suggested that the dance must have been fast and furious; the “light fantastic toe” and the “Terpsichorean art” had no place in the gambollings of the youth and beauty of Kobe. And it would seem, reading between the lines, that some people of Kobe had strong views on the subject of the bazaar dance. We can only infer what those miserable, Puritanical, semi-Covenanting misanthropes thought about it all from the apology of the Rev. Mr. Platt. He has returned all the thanks he can think of, so he starts on “congratulations,” and he says: “Congratulations to the singers and players; upon a good floor and fair numbers. And why should people not dance under the auspices of All Saints? King David danced before the Ark so holy. Truly his wife shot out the lip at him, but as truly he went on dancing. So will we.” It is safe to say the pastor himself had a fling on the “good floor,” and we may surmise that his good lady had a word for his private ear afterwards. But revenge is sweet, especially through the columns of a newspaper, so he gallily returns the compliment and declares himself “impenitent.” Hell do it again, he says, and why not? Truly Kobe has a brozy parson; Hongkong sometimes wonders if it has a parson at all. There are hundreds of young people who will take their affidavit that there is no such thing as a parson in Hongkong. Kowloon seems to have one, but then Kowloon is not Hongkong. Perhaps the Kowloon might be the better for a visit from the exuberant cleric of Kobe, and then again perhaps not.

ANOTHER CLERIC.

Yesterday, we gave prominence to the humour of a parson hailing from the pleasant town of Kobe, where the cherry-blossoms grow and the chrysanthemums spread their petals to the sun. In that case the parson was of a genial, sprightly, vivacious nature, whose temper was not even ruffled because one of his flock fell into a rocky of potplants, and could even manage to smile when the one and only motor-car was commandeered by his bazaar assistants to convey home certain of the congregation. A correspondent who was interested in that account has sent us the copy of a letter which appeared a week ago in a Southern contemporary from the pen of another cleric, and it is instructive to observe the difference of the clerical temperament in Kobe as compared with Singapore. It appears that there had been some controversy about Seventh Day Adventists in Singapore, and the morning newspaper there had the temerity to take sides in the matter. One of the leading disputants

in the discussion was a certain Rev. Thomas Baird. How the controversy began does not appear, and probably does not greatly matter, but the fact remains that the Rev. Thomas Baird found it necessary to go on furlough. In his absence, the newspaper in question dealt with the matter, and a copy of the paper was carefully transmitted to the reverend gentleman, who was then residing in Bristol. Promptly, the divine took up the cudgels. “Were I a little nearer you than I am,” he wrote, “I would make you sit up in your Editorial Chair.” In other words there would have been wigs on the green, and the people of Singapore would have been treated to the lively spectacle of a Donkeybrook Fair on the Esplanade, the chief item on the programme being a bout between the champions of the pulpit and the press. Unfortunately, or otherwise, the cleric is recruiting his health in the vicinity of salubrious Clifton, so that the duel is postponed for the present, but as will appear in a moment, only for the time being. The Rev. Thomas Baird proceeds in this fashion: “Will you in future leave religious matters to religious men? If you are not a converted person you are not competent to give a judgment on religious questions. Keep to your own line in future.” The difficulty is that the average journalist never knows where that “line” begins, and could by no manner of means be led to believe that it ended anywhere; the horizon of his duty is ever expanding. With unmistakable complacency the Rev. Mr. Baird declares that with regard to the Adventists, “I pointed out the heresy of their books to their leader, and he thanked me for the information.” Surely that was magnanimity run to grass, for it is seldom that militant theologians can be brought to see the error of their ways. The winner, however, is gloriously serene in his victory. It may never have occurred to him that a man convinced against his will may be of the same opinion still. At any rate the parson is very wrath with the press, and cries: “Why should you interfere? I only repeat that were I nearer I would make it slightly warm for you. Why did you dare to attack a man during his absence from the Colony? It is extremely cowardly of you. When I return to Singapore I will have something to say to you about this business.” Unhappy scribe, to have incurred the righteous wrath of Fighting Tom. We can fancy the Rev. Thomas Baird taking lessons in the pugilistic art in Bristol, and passing the happy hours away undergoing a course of Sandow's exercises. The waters of Bath would be too mild for the church militant; nothing less than physical exertion and muscular development would suit his temperament. No doubt by this time he is recuperating his health by vigorous sprints between the National Sporting Club and the gymnasium where the one and only strong man stands supreme. We shudder when we think of the fate which will befall the luckless wight of a Singapore Editor when the Reverend Thomas comes marching home again.

TELEGRAMS.

“HONGKONG TELEGRAPH” SERVICE.

SHANGHAI FRICTION.

RIOT NARROWLY AVERTED.

CHINESE REFUSE TO PAY MUNICIPAL TAXES.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 11th June, 2.10 p.m.

It has just transpired that a riot was narrowly averted last Thursday on the outskirts of the settlement. The Representatives of the Municipality were engaged in the collection of Municipal taxes, and in making their calls submitted demands to ratepayers who claimed that they were residing outside the Municipal limits and were not, therefore, liable to be mulcted in taxes. Not alone saved the situation, matters looking very black for a considerable time.

CHINESE REFORM.

THE DISABILITIES OF GIRLS.

SALE OF FEMALES TO BE PROHIBITED.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 12th June, 3.10 p.m.

It is understood that the Government of China have had under consideration the question of the sale of females within the Empire. A rescript, it is believed, is pending, whereby the practice will be abolished.

COREAN PIRATES.

JAPANESE WARSHIPS DESPATCHED TO THE SCENE.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 13th June, 2.40 p.m.

Japanese warships have been despatched to Korea with the object of suppressing the piracy which have occurred, of late, off the Korean coast.

THE VLADIVOSTOK RIOTS.

RUSSIA MAGNANIMOUS.

AN INDEMNITY OF SEVEN AND A HALF MILLION ROUBLES.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 14th June, 2.40 p.m.

Russia, it is understood, has consented to pay the sum of 7,500,000 roubles to the Chinese Government as an indemnity for the losses sustained by Chinese merchants at Vladivostok during the recent riots.

THE DEWEY DOCK.

SIGHTED AT SABANG.

MOMENTARILY EXPECTED AT SINGAPORE.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Singapore, 15th June, 3.15 p.m.

The Dewey dock, which is being towed from New York to Manila, has been sighted at Sabang. The dock, with her escort, is expected to arrive at Singapore this evening.

[The Dewey dock has made a remarkably quick passage, under the circumstances, across the Indian Ocean. She was only expected to arrive at Singapore on the 20th inst.—five days hence.—Ed., H.K.T.]

THE SHANGHAI RIOT.

WAIWUPU AND BRITISH DEMANDS.

AMICABLE SETTLEMENT IN SIGHT.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 15th June, 2.35 p.m.

Negotiations are still proceeding between the Governments of Great Britain and China with the object of arriving at a settlement of the claims arising out of the recent riot in Shanghai. It is understood that the Waiwupu is disposed to acquiesce amicably in the demands formulated by the British Government.

MORPHIA FOR CHINA.

BRITAIN'S PROHIBITION SCHEME.

WAIWUPU AGREES TO BRITISH CONDITIONS.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 15th June, 2.35 p.m.

The British Government has intimated to the Waiwupu that arrangements will be made to prohibit the exportation of British manufactured morphia to China, provided that the Chinese Government undertakes to prevent the manufacture of native morphia and the importation of the drug from other countries. It is reported that the Waiwupu has agreed to these conditions.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

We have received the following minutes of the monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce held in the Chamber Room, St. George's Building, on Wednesday, 9th inst. There were present:—Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett, (Chairman), Mr. A. G. Wood, (Vice-Chairman), Hon. Mr. C. W. Dixon, Messrs. A. Haupp, D. R. Law, G. H. Macdonald, N. A. Siebs, J. E. M. Smith, H. E. Tomkins and A. R. Lowe (Secretary).

METRIC SYSTEM OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The following letter was read:—

Oxford Court, Cannon Street, London, 16th March, 1906.

The Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong.

Dear Sir,—The movement in favour of the adoption of the metric weights and measures originated with the Chambers of Commerce of Great Britain and later nearly every Colonial Chamber of Commerce has shown approval of the proposed reform.

The Decimals Association, which, as you may remember, was organized by the London Chamber of Commerce, has lately gained very considerable strength, indeed the Committee have decided upon the introduction of a Bill in the House of Commons.

In this position of affairs, I feel sure that you will agree with me that it is very important to retain the full measure of support which Chambers of Commerce accorded to the movement in the past.

I fear that lately there has been a falling off in the determination shown by Chambers of Commerce to carry out this reform, and to have this in a measure, been due to a feeling that the conduct of the campaign might now be left to the Decimals Association.

My object in addressing you is to beg of you to use every effort to keep the subject before the front in all resolutions of Chambers of Commerce and in having them in every other way possible continue to show that they remain in warm sympathy with our efforts.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) E. JOHNSON, Secretary.

The Chairman said this letter had crossed one from the Chamber sent on 6th ultimo, enclosing donation of £10, and informing the Association that the Chamber's delegates at the forthcoming Congress in London of the Cham-

bers of Commerce of the Empire had instructions to support the reform. The Hongkong Chamber had during the past 7 years helped the movement all they could.

TIME BALL AT KOWLOON.

The following letter was read:—

Colonial Secretary's Office, 24th April, 1906.

Sir,—Referring to your letter of the 2nd October last on the subject of the position of the time ball at Kowloon, I am directed to forward for the information of your Chamber a plan showing the position of the time ball as decided to erect the new tower.

This site you are aware had recently been marked by a bamboo scaffolding, and I understand that it meets with the approval of the Chamber.

I shall be glad to learn what colour the Chamber consider to be most suitable for the proposed Ball.—I have, &c.,

(Sgd.) T. SERCOMBE SMITH, Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

The Chairman explained that the site recommended by the Government was one of two selected by the Committee in October last and was undoubtedly the best available, as it was visible from nearly all parts of the harbour. It was decided to recommend black as the best colour for the time ball.

INDIAN COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE. Letters were read from the Colonial Secretary and Secretary to Government of India regarding the formation of a Commercial Intelligence Department for India and the issue of a weekly trade paper under the direction of Mr. Noel-Paton, late Secretary of the Calcutta Chamber of Commerce.

It was decided to reply that the Chamber would undertake to correspond with the new department on matters relating to Hongkong and trade with India.

SIXTH CONGRESS OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OF THE EMPIRE.

The Secretary reported that a cable had been despatched to the Secretary of the Congress advising him of the names of the delegates from Hongkong who would represent the Chamber at the meeting in London during July next, and that letters inviting the services of Sir Thomas Jackson, Messrs. Gershom Stewart, F. Salinger and R. C. Wilcox had been mailed on the 7th ultimo.

SAN FRANCISCO DISASTER.

The following letter was read:—

Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, 10th April, 1906.

Sir,—I have the honour to confirm cable sent to you on the 23rd instant, as follows:—The Hongkong Chamber of Commerce desires to convey to the city of San Francisco and neighbourhood its heartfelt sympathy in the calamity which has befallen it.

My Committee felt it was only fitting the commercial community of this Colony should assure their friends in San Francisco of the sympathy reflected on this side with the sufferers in what may well be considered the most overwhelming and disastrous calamity in modern times.

The members of the Chamber at a general meeting held on the 26th instant confirmed the action of my Committee and in the course of my speech on this occasion I was able to refer to the mutual good resulting from the long standing trade relations now grown to such large proportions which exist between this Colony and California, and the city of San Francisco in particular, the chief shipping port in the United States Pacific coast, from which the American mail lines have to make this Colony their terminus in the Far East.

You can therefore be assured that in expressing the wishes of this commercial community including as it does several important American business institutions, that the regret and sympathy which has unhappily fallen on your state is shared very deeply on this side, and I am to express the hope that the recovery to normal conditions may be obtained with that quickness of purpose which is so characteristic of the American people.—I have, &c.,

(Sgd.) E. A. HEWETT, Chairman.

His Excellency Governor Pardo, Sacramento, California.

PETROLEUM IN BULK.

Correspondence was read between the Government and the Chamber regarding the working of tank oil ships at night.

The Chairman said that the Government's *Gazette* of the 4th inst. contained an amendment of the Petroleum in Bulk Regulations. The Government had very promptly met the suggestions of the Committee in the interests of the oil trade of the port.

CHAMBER'S REPRESENTATIVE ON THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Correspondence was read conveying the thanks of the Committee to Mr. R. Shewan for his services in the Council and advising the Government of the result of the election on the 26th ultimo.

“KWONG TUNG”-“TAI ON” COLLISION ACTION.

The following reply was read:—

Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, 9th April, 1906.

Sir,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th ultimo covering copy of letter from the Chief Justice to the Governor relating to the *Kwongtung-Tai On* collision action recently heard in the Supreme Court, and to express the thanks of my Committee for the privilege His Excellency has afforded them of giving an opinion in the matter.

It appears that the larger river steamers under the management of European companies and firms invariably carry two certificated officers, in addition to the captain, under the belief that the extra expense repays them in the additional security afforded to owners and passengers, but the Committee cannot see their way to recommend the compulsory adoption of this practice, as a similar class of vessel is not required to carry more than a master and “only mate” under English law.

I have, &c.,

(Sgd.) A. R. LOWE, Secretary.

Hon. T. Sercombe Smith, Colonial Secretary.

CHINESE SUBSIDIZED (SILVER) COINS.

The correspondence with S. J. David & Coy. and from the Star Ferry Company, was then read, and it was decided to write to the Chambers of Commerce at Shanghai and Tientsin on the subject with a view to the further representations being made to the Peking authorities urging the unification of Chinese currency.

This concluded the business before the meeting.

KAISER SING, a watchman, employed at a Chinese dock at Sham-tui-po, charged two Chinamen at the Police Court to-day, (1) with stealing \$31 worth of goods from him on the 10th instant, and (2) destroying a promissory note to the value of \$100 and a receipt for \$50, the property of the complainant. Mr. H. J. Gardner, of Mr. O. D. Thomson's office, prosecuted, and Mr. Otto Kong Sing defended. The case was adjourned.

EX-CULIOR AND HIS REWT.

AN AMENOR WRIT.

In Summary Jurisdiction this afternoon, His Honour Mr. A. G. Wise, Puisne Judge, presiding, Yeung Fung Yik, of No. 29 Connaught Road West, sued the Sam Cheung firm, of No. 43 Wing On Street, to recover the sum of \$73.50 being one month's rent for the ground and first floor of No. 43 Wing On Street.

Mr. R. A. Harding appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. C. F. Dixon, of Mr. John Hastings office, represented the defendant.

It will be remembered that this case was first brought by Yeung Fung Yik, as executor of the will of Young Ting Po, deceased, when Mr. Dixon objected to the case proceeding as the probate of the will of Young Ting Po had not been produced. This probate was subsequently found among the papers, and it proved that plaintiff was not only executor of the will, but was sole legatee, and that being so he should have sued, not as executor, but as owner of the property.

The case was accordingly adjourned until to-day in order to give plaintiff, through his solicitor, time to amend the writ.

The plaintiff having proved his case judgment was given for him with costs.

BANK VERSUS BANK.

CLAIM FOR MONEY DEPOSITED.

In Original Jurisdiction this morning, His Honour Mr. A. G. Wise, Puisne Judge, presiding, the Fung Tak Bank, of No. 109 Jervois Street, Victoria, sued the Wai Wing Hong Bank, of No. 115 Queen's Road Central, Victoria, for recovery of the sum of \$4,049.60 due on two deposit notes signed by the defendant Bank in favour of the plaintiff Bank.

The plaintiffs carry on business as bankers under the style of the Fung Tak Bank, at No. 109 Jervois Street, Victoria, Hongkong. The defendants carry on business as bankers under the style of the Wai Wing Hong Bank, at No. 115 Queen's Road Central, Victoria, aforesaid. On the 27th July, 1905, the defendants were indebted to the plaintiffs in the sum of \$4,000, on current account, and it was agreed between the partners that the said sum of \$4,000 should be transferred from current account to deposit account for the term of two Chinese months, commencing as from the 27th day of the fifth Moon (21st June, 1905), and that interest should be paid thereon at the rate of \$6.25 per \$1,000 per Chinese month.

The said sum became due and payable by the defendants to the plaintiffs on the 27th day of the 7th Moon, (27th August, 1905) together with interest at the said agreed rate, but the defendants have not paid the same or any part thereof. The plaintiffs therefore claim judgment (1) for the sum of \$4,000, and (2) interest on \$4,000 at the rate of \$6.25 per \$1,000 per Chinese month from 21st June, 1905, to date of payment or judgment, and (3) the costs of this action.

Mr. W. W. Slide, instructed by Mr. H. R. Holmes, appeared for the plaintiff Bank, Mr. F. Pigelet (Hett), of Messrs. Brutton and Hett, watching proceedings on behalf of the defendant Bank, which was otherwise unrepresented.

His Honour: Mr. Slide, I understand, this case is unended?

Mr. Slide: Well, my Lord, Mr. Hett, the solicitor for the defendant, is here and has told me that he has written to his clients by registered letter to come to the Colony, but has had no reply.

His Honour: Then they are absent?

Mr. Slide: Well, my Lord, they are represented by their solicitor.

His Honour: Well, then you had better formally call them.

Defendants were called and found not to be present.

The managing partner of the plaintiff firm was called and proved the claim against the defendant Bank.

His Honour: Judgment with costs.

Mr. Slide: I would ask that the order be made as from July, 1905.

His Honour: Very well, take the order so.

“SETTLED, MY LORD.”

Chinese petty traders are proverbially peculiar for their persistent penchant for procrastination, and this characteristic leads them to quite unnecessary and avoidable trouble at times. They owe an account—they know they owe it—and they arrange to pay it by strange and mysterious “transfers”—credit here, and a debit there. But time goes on, and the account remains unsettled. Then one day a writ issues from the Court; a day is set for the hearing of the case, legal representatives with big bundles of mysterious documents in their hands, rush, be-gowned, into Court; the learned Judge takes his seat, the “case” is called with all the dignity of registered number, and date, when a member of the legal profession arises and says, “I have just been instructed, my Lord, that this matter has been settled by payment, and there is no case to go on with.”

Settlement is entered, and there being no other business before the Court, the Judge retires, the legal lights vanish, and the Courtroom drops back into its pristine state of dull, deadly monotony, and wonders what its use is after all.

Such was another of those incidents taking place in the Summary Court, before His Honour Mr. A. G. Wise, Puisne Judge, when the Le Sik Ting, trading as the Kwong Yee, sued the Wong Ku Kwong Sz firm for \$251.40, for goods sold, delivered, but unpaid for.

Settlement being entered, all parties left the Court, smiling placidly, and wondering if the marrow would be the same to-day.

HONGKONG APPEAL CASE.

The Lord of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, on 10th ult., gave judgment on the appeal of Chu Ping v. Chan Ut Chiu and another, from the Supreme Court of Hongkong. This was a dispute as to the beneficial ownership of a piece of land reclaimed from the foreshore in the harbour of Victoria, Hongkong, under the provisions of the Ordinance passed on May 10, 1880.

At the date of the Ordinance the ownership of the piece of land, known as the “Marine Lot No. 534,” fronting the Praya road along the line of the proposed reclamation, was divided between Chu Ping, Yiu Chow, and an Englishman named Stephens. The respondents are the successors in title of one Yiu Chow, deceased, and the appellant is the surviving executor of one Chu Ping, deceased. Chu Ping was settled in Hongkong, the power of Section C, by payment of a sum of \$200, but failed to come to an agreement with Yiu Chow. The action was commenced by the respondents against the appellant and his co-executor (since dead) in May, 1903, and the Chief Justice gave judg-

ment in favour of the respondents for the whole of the land in dispute. An appeal from this judgment was heard by the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Sercombe Smith, but the previous judgment was affirmed. In the present appeal the Lordships advised that the order of the Supreme Court of Hongkong be reversed, and instead thereof it be ordered that the action of the respondents be dismissed with costs in both Courts. The respondents will also pay the costs of the present appeal.

KOWLOON CITY ARMED ROBBERY.

GRASS-CUTTER'S HUT ATTACKED.

Before Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz, at the Magistrate's Court, seven men were charged with committing armed robbery at Kowloon City on Tuesday night, and stealing \$195.60 in money and clothing. The men pleaded not guilty. A grass-cutter, residing at “Nan Shan” Mu, Kowloon City, said that at half-past nine on the 12th inst., while he was asleep, five men entered the house, by breaking down the door. Two of the robbers seized him, while the others searched for loot. When they had collected what they wanted they examined the goods, which consisted mostly of clothing. They found that among the bunch was some old clothing, which they burnt. After this they commenced to beat witness and then they left. Besides the clothing the robbers removed \$195.60 in hard cash. Meanwhile, the other three men set upon witness's brother and tied him to the bed. All the men were armed—that is, the five men who were in the house—while a man who stood sentry at the door of the house, held a long four-pointed knife. Witness could not identify the defendants as they held him face downwards, but he could recognize the clothing which was found on defendant. Further evidence was called and the case adjourned.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.]

NUISANCE IN QUEEN'S ROAD EAST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE “HONGKONG TELEGRAPH.” Sir,—Much has been said respecting the line-washing and cleansing operations engaged in by the Sanitary Authorities, but there is one thing that I have not seen mentioned in connection with the preventive measures employed in connection with infectious diseases, viz. the dumping of rubbish during the night and early hours of the morning in the various thoroughfares. Nearly all who attend the St. Francis Street Roman Catholic Church will have noticed the piles of foul, evil-smelling matter that has been thrown in the street; and they will also have noted the number of fowls and stray dogs that are busy amongst the offensive offal. Such material might easily spread infectious germs throughout the neighbourhood. Cannot something be done to abolish this nuisance? Thanking you in anticipation that you will make this matter public. I am, etc.,

OBSERVER.

Hongkong, 14th June.

P. & O. COMPANY'S PROSPERITY.

THE INTERIM DIVIDEND.

We are enabled to state through the courtesy of the Hon. Mr. R. E. Hewett, Superintendent of the P. & O. Company, that the Directors of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company announce a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum on the preferred stock, and an interim dividend at the rate of 7 per cent

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

14th inst.
A meeting of the Legislative Council was held this afternoon. Present:—His Excellency the Governor, Major Sir Matthew Nathan, K.C.M.G., R.E., His Excellency Major-General Villiers Hutton, C.B. (Commanding the Troops), Hon. Mr. T. Scrimgeour-Smith (Colonial Secretary), Hon. Sir H. Spencer Berkeley (Attorney General), Hon. Mr. A. M. Thomson (Colonial Treasurer), Hon. Mr. A. W. Brewin (Registrar-General), Hon. Capt. L. A. W. Barnes-Lawrence, R.N. (Harbour Master), Hon. Mr. W. Chatham (Director of Public Works), Hon. Mr. R. A. Hewitt, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, M.B.E., C.M., C.M.G., Hon. Mr. H. B. Pollock, C.M., Hon. Mr. E. Osborne, Hon. Mr. W. G. Y. M. Fitcher (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT.
Mr. Gresson was appointed a member of the Public Works Committee vice Mr. C. W. Dickson.

THE GOVERNOR'S STATEMENT.

His Excellency the Governor said: Under the Financial Minute Number 34, the sum of \$50,000 is required for the erection of additional quarters for nurses at the Government Civil Hospital. Rather less was spent last year on this work than was anticipated and consequently rather more has to be spent this year. The work is now completed at a cost of \$33,100 as against an estimate of \$50,000 making a saving of \$16,900. Financial Minute Number 35, including a sum of \$400 in aid of the Police and Prisoners in the cells. The excess on the sum which was voted is due to the large number of deportees from Singapore and Saigon to whom meals had to be provided in the police cells. We propose now to recover this amount from the Government of the Straits Settlements and of F.M.S. The sum named, \$3,000, also includes a sum of \$600 in aid of the secret service. Hitherto, I find, or it has been paid to my notice, that the sum has been paid in irregular fashion. It is somewhat irregular procedure; the fines should go to revenue and all money spent in paying informers should be voted by this Council. Minute Number 36 is for \$3,375.79 for substituting the new pattern for the old pattern rifles. The expenditure was incurred last year but the accounts were not received in time to be included in the accounts for last year. Minute Number 37 is for \$1,000 for washing for the hospital. This has been done in the past, but there has been a very considerable reduction in the numbers in the hospital and prisoners are no longer available for this work. Now only 430 to 450 prisoners are in the hospital compared with about 800 some eighteen months ago. Number 38 is for \$470 for the Post Office. This vote is to enable the Government to do away with the Hong Kong system of correspondence with Canton. It is a private establishment of a letter carrier, paid them to deliver letters in Canton at so much as 10 cents per packet. It was necessary so long as to adopt this system the Imperial Post Office of China could not undertake to deliver Chinese letters regularly in Canton. They have now undertaken to do that, and it is more convenient in every way that the correspondence should pass through the regular Post Office. The small amount will be more than covered by the additional Post Office receipts.

CIVIL SERVANTS' EMOLUMENTS.

Mr. E. A. Hewitt asked: With reference to the Draft Supplementary Colonial Estimates giving a comparative statement of the Estimated and Actual Expenditure of the Colony for the year 1905 as presented to the Legislative Council at the last meeting, will the Honourable the Colonial Secretary state what saving, if any, has been effected in the personal emoluments of the whole of the Civil Service during that period?

1. Is the saving entirely due to the difference in the rate of exchange between the rate calculated on in the Estimates and the rate at which payment was made, or is it due to other causes, what causes?

On what rate were the Estimates based, and at what rate or rates were payments made?

The Colonial Treasurer replied:—1. The saving effected in Personal Emoluments during 1905 amounts to \$163,385.

2. Practically this saving is due to the difference between the rate of exchange fixed for the Estimates and that at which payment was made.

The average rate for the year at which payment was made was 1s. 11d. The Estimates were framed at the rate of 1s. 8d.

THE DENTISTS BILL.

The Attorney General submitted the Law Committee's report on the Dentists Bill. A considerable number of amendments had been made in the bill.

Mr. Pollock said he did not know what effect this bill would have on the Chinese dentists. The bill should not be hurried through before they had time to consider the Committee's recommendations. It was a bill of some importance as affecting the qualifications of Chinese dentists and he suggested the third reading should be deferred.

His Excellency the Governor—The third reading has not yet been moved.

The report was laid on the table.

The Attorney General gave notice that he would move the adoption of the report at the next meeting of the Council.

NAVAL AND MILITARY WORKS.

The Attorney General moved the first reading of a bill entitled an Ordinance to authorize the construction and maintenance of certain naval and military works upon and over certain portions of the Crown foreshore and sea bed situate upon the harbor frontage of the city of Victoria, in this Colony. It was stated in the "objects and reasons" for the bill that the construction and maintenance of certain works, upon and over part of the foreshore and sea bed have been deemed expedient in the interests of the Colony's Naval and Military Services in this Colony. This Ordinance confers the necessary statutory authority for such construction and maintenance in the future and also legalizes what has been already done.

The Bill was read a first time.

ESTABLISHMENT OF ASYLUMS.

The Attorney General moved the second reading of the bill entitled an Ordinance to provide for the establishment of asylums for the custody and care of persons of unsound mind and others. In commenting on the provisions of the bill, the Attorney General remarked that those persons who were sent to the General Civil Hospital and found to be suffering from delirium tremens would be sent to this asylum for surveillance and observation. All were agreed that this was a disease and the afflicted should be put under observation.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

The bill passed the second reading, and the Council went into Committee on the clause.

SUPPLEMENTARY VOTE.

The Colonial Secretary moved the third reading of the bill entitled an Ordinance to authorize the appropriation of a supplementary

sum of two hundred and seventy-eight thousand four hundred and twelve dollars and eight cents, to defray the charges of the year 1905.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

The bill was read a third time and passed.

MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY BILL.

The Attorney General moved the third reading of the bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the law relating to the property of married women.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

The bill was read a third time and passed.

The Council adjourned till Thursday, 21st inst., at 2.30 p.m.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the Council meeting, the Colonial Secretary presiding.

It was agreed that the following votes be recommended for adoption by the Council:—

HOSPITAL STAFF QUARTERS.

A sum of two thousand one hundred and sixty-four dollars in aid of the vote, public works extraordinary, buildings—Government Civil Hospital—extension to staff quarters.

POLICE VOTES.

A sum of one thousand dollars in aid of the vote, police and prison departments, Police—other charges for the following items:—

Meals for prisoners in cells.....\$ 400

Secret service....." 600

Total.....\$1,000

VOLUNTEER EQUIPMENT.

A sum of three thousand three hundred and seventy-five dollars and seventy-nine cents in aid of the vote, military expenditure, Volunteers—other charges, rifles and equipment.

HOSPITAL WASHING.

A sum of one thousand six hundred dollars in aid of the vote, medical departments, other charges, hospitals and asylums, Civil Hospital: washing.

POST OFFICE CONTINGENCIES.

A sum of four hundred and seventy dollars in aid of the vote, Post Office—Hongkong Post Office, other charges, for the following items:—

Contingencies.....\$ 50

Rent of a floor....." 420

Total.....\$470

PRIZE FIGHT

AT THE CITY HALL.

11th inst.

Notwithstanding the fact that it turned out very hot on Saturday night, a very fair audience assembled at the Theatre Royal, City Hall, to witness the "counterfeit" presentation of the Britt-Nelson prize fight, and a very enthusiastic audience they proved. The living pictures, rolling along, showed, and distinctly every feature of the fight, and were so steady that many faces were very plainly seen from the front rows. So very realistic was the whole thing that it required very little imagination to persuade one that he was actually witnessing the very fight itself. Apart from the actual subject of the pictures themselves, the state, bordering on perfection, to which it has so far been possible to bring these "living pictures," speaks of the vast possibilities and many uses to which this new art may be put, and if the films and machines continue to be improved with such great strides as has been the case hitherto, who shall prophesy what is or what is not in store for future audiences? With improved gramophones, and other "phones," may yet witness full performances of Grand Opera, here in Hongkong.

ASSAULTING HIS MASTER.

11th inst.

The case in which an assistant tailor, employed at the shop No. 45, Wellington Street, was alleged to have assaulted his master by throwing him down the staircase of the building on the 7th instant, and breaking his arm, was continued before Mr. F. A. Hazeldan, at the Magistrate's Court this afternoon. Inspector Ritchie prosecuted, the defendant being represented by Mr. R. A. Harding. The complainant said he was master of the shop and that defendant was paid according to the amount of work done. On the day when he asked for a loan, no money was due to the defendant; moreover, he had not finished some work which had been given to him, and according to the account book, defendant had already overdrawn. Words followed, and defendant struck out at complainant, the latter eventually falling to the ground. Witness of unconscious after this and could not account as to how his arm was fractured. Cross-examined by Mr. Harding witness denied burning defendant with a pipe. Other witnesses were called showing that there was dispute over accounts and a fight followed, defendant hitting his arm in falling. His Worship fined defendant \$5 for fighting.

THE KOBE AND OSAKA HARBOUR SCHEMES.

AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT.

Mr. Uchida, the Director of the Shipping Inspection Bureau, who is engaged on an official tour of the harbours at Kobe, Osaka, Moji and Nagasaki, inspected the works at the Kobe Customs and Harbour and Marine offices the other day, says the *Kobe Herald*, and on the following day he visited the Mitsui Bishi and Kawasaki Dockyards, subsequently leaving for Moji and Nagasaki by the *Tokai Maru*. During his visit to Kobe Mr. Uchida made a statement to the following effect:—The completion of the Osaka Harbour works is so great a question that it is not possible for me to express a definite opinion on the subject at the present moment. In regard to Kobe, however, I emphatically hold that harbour improvements are urgently required and should be carried out at the earliest opportunity. It would not be difficult to construct adequate breakwaters, to be used also as quays, as the nature of the sea bottom is suitable for the purpose. By means of these, vessels could be safely anchored in any weather, even in heavy storms. The building of the breakwaters would be a simple matter on the Onohama side, but it would be an expensive task on the Kobe side, as a good deal of property would have to be acquired. Mr. Uchida went on to say that he considered there had been much exaggeration as to the interruption of shipping work in Kobe during heavy weather. An official return showed that the loading and landing of cargo were only stopped by the weather on five days last year. "Nevertheless, I am entirely of opinion that the harbour must be improved. The object of my tour is to ascertain which of the four ports, Osaka, Kobe, Moji, and Nagasaki, requires improvement, and to suggest to the Japanese Chief of the Engineering Works Bureau, will be sent to Europe and America for the purpose of investigating the harbours there, with a view to getting information for the benefit of the ports above mentioned."

FOR CHINESE REFORMERS.

"CHILDREN OF FAR CATHAY."

13th inst.

It is very doubtful whether "Children of Far Cathay" will become popular with the general mass of novel readers. There is much out of the way learning, and it is a novel, but the reader accustomed to a novel, making for the occasional plain, the short snipped of dainty repetition, will grow restless under the enforced regimen of thought. Mr. Charles J. H. Halcorn, the author, has taken pains to delineate a side of human nature which is unknown to the European and therefore misunderstood. A conscientious book-lover will find delight in the quaint conceits which scatter on every page, the curious view held by Chinese ladies, their love of the mysterious and mythical, and their innate delicacy in venturing on new ground. But it is not a work for the million, which is probably the highest praise that could be given to the "Children of Far Cathay." The story opens quietly, under the shadow of Canterbury Cathedral. It lingers for a moment in the leafy lanes of Kent, and then dashes off to China, to Canton, to Peking. For a time it wanders through pleasant fiction of Chinese home customs, rises for a moment to the heroic, and again dwells upon the sayings of the ages and the strange, weird tales that have come down through the centuries and are still handed on from father to son and, more especially, from mother to daughter. But this is only the gentle, persuasive art of the writer, for in a moment we are off in a wild flight across continents, hunted like rats, we venture across the length and breadth of the system of the world, a victory and a happy return.

There are several "heroes," if we may so describe them, in the book, but we are first introduced to a certain Herbert Montrose who returns to England, after a sojourn in India, only to find that he has been killed. He turns missionary, and a curious sort of missionary he proves. He preaches two sermons in his life, then defies the law and its prophets and finally emerges with a sword in his hand at the head of a squadron of cavalry, and he never leaves sword falls off canon. However, he comes to China as a missionary, uncredited apparently, and proceeds to a place called Lien, which is curiously near the region of Lien-chau where the massacre took place last year. For Lien, we read, is a small city, "about one hundred and thirty miles to the north-west of Canton." At Lien, then, all had been peace and happiness under the reign of the last taotai, but now a Manchurian Tartar reigns in his place, and there is nothing but greed, rapacity and corruption in his vile court. The officials are sycophants and robbers at one and the same time. The Manchurian Tartar is a double-dyed rascal. Perhaps the picture is a trifle highly coloured, but in the main there is truth in the description of the mandarin whose life is devoted to enriching himself at the expense of the people. The curious part is that while Mr. Halcorn is never tired of condemning and denouncing the higher officials, their oppression and extortion, he is in full praise of the system of government in China, whereby the *literati* may hope to reach the highest heights of kingly favour.

Arrived at Lien, Montrose attempts to speak in the market place, to the amusement of the crowd. Again he essays to address the Chinese on the subject of the Bible, but instigated by the taotai's henchmen the people jeer at him and finally nearly stone him to death. Mr. Hung Fong Cheng—who, if we are not much mistaken, will reappear some day as the new Ming Emperor of China—appears on the scene, and drives off the cowardly assailants, while his sister, who has seen everything from behind the jealousies of her window, faints in terror.

The taotai now shows himself to be a true Manchurian Tartar. He hears of a scheme of plunder that is being hatched and determines to make capital out of it. The ringleader is a good-for-nothing, the brother of Hung Fong, who is father to Cheng. The attempt is made, the gang captured, and the good-for-nothing made to confess that his wealthy and reputable brother was at the head of the whole business. It can be guessed what happens. The ringleader is executed, and the others are sentenced to a suicide. The family is outlawed. But young Cheng and Montrose are off to Canton—Cheng to continue his studies, Montrose to labour in the provincial capital. It need hardly be said that in Canton we have plenty of excitement, for Montrose and Cheng determine to rescue a couple of prisoners who have been unjustly condemned to death. Naturally, they succeed, but how many more they kill and maim, we will be left to learn by purchasing the novel. They teach Hongkong and are arrested again, a smart *hukong* having noticed something suspicious in their deportment. Montrose, of course, is at the head of all this excitement and treasonable malpractices, having abandoned the missionary role *pro tem*, and he pleads with the Captain Superintendent of Police and the Governor for their release. Because they do this, they are sent to the prison, where they are supercilious if not better. Without being formally extradited the prisoners are handed over to the Chinese and promptly decapitated in Kowloon. Montrose was with them to the last.

The scene is changed to Shanghai. The sister of Cheng, after various vicissitudes, has also arrived at Shanghai. Montrose meets her. There is a misunderstanding and the girl disappears. Six years later, Montrose discovers her in Hongkong acting as a musician and there is intense joy on both sides. Meanwhile, what has the young brother Cheng been doing? He would be expected to have been at the story, but in 1895, so that we are now in 1903 or thereabouts. Mr. Cheng has become a renowned leader of the Mings and can raise an army of 40,000 odd to defeat the Tartars. It would be spoiling an exciting tale to disclose what happens when Montrose is made a brigadier-general of the rebels suffice it to say, that the end should satisfy the most fastidious.

As we said at the outset the "Children of Far Cathay" will not shine as a popular novel, in our opinion, it is a work of art, and it is to be enjoyed in the quietest of Chinese family life. There are a multitude of Chinese myths and fables related by the chief personages in their social and mediative moments, and these form the best part of the book. They are told with vivacity and charm, the real local colour is found in every line of these wonderful tales with which Chinese gentle in regale each other. In fact, they are curiously fascinating, and tempt the reader to turn back and comment to memory. Mr. Halcorn has a deft touch, an observant eye, and the keenest sympathy with the Chinese reformers. Of course, some people will disagree with much that is laid down in so-called axioms, but we cannot quarrel with that when we are concerned with a novel. The only things to which we would take exception are the continual use of the split infinitive, and in the earlier part of the book the plethora of Latin, French and Chinese words.

The book is printed and published at the *Hongkong Daily Press* office, and is a credit to them. The type is clear and bold, the paper good, and the binding firm and sound.

OUR WATER SUPPLY.

WATER AUTHORITY IN A QUANDARY.

13th inst.

Hongkong residents may keep their minds easy on the subject of the water supply—there is no danger of a famine this year, at any rate. There were over 60 million gallons of water more in the reservoirs on the glorious First of June this year than there were on the same date last year. It seems almost too good to be true. Actually, the water in the Pokfulam holder is up to the brim, and anybody poured a tumblerful into the reservoir it would be running over. Tyant refuses to come up to the scratch, that is to say the level mark, but the water there is higher by seven feet than it was in May last year, while Bywash and Wong-nelchong are both endeavouring to eclipse Pokfulam. If things go at this rate the water authorities will be in a bitter quandary. They know perfectly well how to deal with an empty reservoir. They can take learnedly, not to say ambiguously, of the absolute quality of the soil, the erratic propensities of Hongkong's Weather Clerk and Astronomer Royal, and the sauciness caused by people who will demand water on a cloudless day. But a quartette of brimming reservoirs is quite another thing. It throws the watermen out of their calculations so that they "dunno" where they are. By and by, we may expect the water authorities knocking at the door and begging people to wash themselves and their families and to take a long walk, just to get rid of this superfluous superabundance of water. The hotel keepers should subsidise somebody to get rid by hook or by crook of this watery accumulation, otherwise people may begin abusing their systems by an immoderate indulgence in water. Yet the fact is that although there are 317,597,000 gallons in the four tanks, Hongkong residents are actually consuming nearly six gallons less per head per day than they were a year ago. The figures show that each person is dallying with a paltry 5.15 gallons to-day, whereas last year, because, no doubt, there was less water in the reservoirs, they were making away with 21.2 gallons a day. A curious note appears in connection with the consumption of water in the city. Although there was less water at the command of the authorities in May last year, still the city had a "universal constant supply." This year the rider main is in operation with the result that people in the central and western districts of Victoria—the most crowded sections of the city—are only allowed one hour's supply a day! It does seem extraordinary that along Queen Road West people should be supposed to obtain all the water they require in one hour, especially when there is a plentiful supply in the reservoirs. And the grim humour of it is that even if shopkeepers apply for an extra hour's supply and state that they are willing to pay for it, the water is not given, however, that is the way of the Government to it is useless to complain. It would be interesting to know if the people on the second floors of houses in Wanchai are now receiving an adequate supply of water. Kowloon residents are still content with a meagre daily quantity; they manage to get along on 5.9 gallons a day each, which is rather less than they required in May last year. As usual, the Government Analyst report that the water is of excellent quality.

SAN FRANCISCO EARTHQUAKE.

COMFORTS FOR TOURISTS.

13th inst.

When the *s.s. Nippon Maru* arrived in Hongkong at daylight on Sunday, Mr. D. McKay, general passenger agent for the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, "Occidental and Oriental Steamship Company, Toyo Kaisha Kaisha in connection with San Francisco Overland Route, received from his headquarters in San Francisco the following information:—"Owing to rumours having reached this office that a story is being circulated in the Orient to the effect that everything is disorganized in San Francisco, and that passengers via the Pacific Mail S.S. Co., the Occidental & Oriental S.S. Co., and the Toyo Kaisha Kaisha cannot find hotel accommodation, etc., in San Francisco, owing to the destruction of several hotels and boarding houses by the recent earthquake and fire, the management of the above named lines wishes to point out that there is absolutely no truth in these rumours. Passengers coming via San Francisco can do so with the assurance that they will meet with no inconvenience or difficulty." The earthquake at San Francisco followed by a fire which destroyed what remained after the shock is a terrible event and passengers who visit America by the lines represented by Mr. McKay will have an opportunity of witnessing the terrible havoc wrought by the double calamity. It should be stated that the Companies represented by Mr. McKay were most prompt in looking after the welfare and comfort of their passengers, making provision for them regardless of expense, and rumours to the contrary may be entirely dismissed as *canards*.

SEAMEN'S MISSIONS.

HONGKONG'S SHARE IN THE WORK.

The jubilee report of the Missions to Seamen has arrived, and mention is made of an excellent work being carried on in Hongkong under the superintendence of the Rev. J. H. France. Gratification is expressed at the opening of the Seamen's Institute at Wanchai, which leads the writer of the report to say "The Far East had its victories for the Prince of Peace even while the war was raging around." Regret is expressed that no suitable clergymen has been found to fill the vacancy for assistant chaplain, the result being that Mr. France has had single-handed to contend against personal ill health in his arduous and effective labours on board the immense fleets at the anchorage. It is noted that after a service on a Norwegian sailing ship in the harbour, ten copies of the Bible in five different languages were sold to the crew, the special feature being that the crew actually paid for the copies instead of trying to get them gratuitously. Under the heading of "efficiency" of sailors and their families, in seamen's churches and institutes at 39 seaports, Hongkong contributed the third largest amount. Wellington, New Zealand, was first with nearly 1,248; the *Mersey Mission* gave £203 odd; and Hongkong provided £158 7s. 7d. Next to this port as a generous giver came London with £105, while fifth on the list was Bristol which gave £95. The total income of the Society was £63,481, as compared with £4,884 in 1902, but the increase was mainly due to the amount received in legacies, donations, etc.—£15,440, the largest in the history of the Missions. On the whole the report is very satisfactory and gives eloquent testimony to the excellent work being done in the great shipping ports of the world.

The *Persepolis*, a naval tug now at Cavite undergoing repairs, has received orders to proceed to Singapore as soon as possible in order to assist in towing the dry dock *Dewey* to Olongapo. The *Dewey* is expected to arrive at Singapore June 30.

A GRUDGE AGAINST A BANK.

OPUM FARM TO THE RESCUE.

13th inst.

One of the largest and peculiar opium seizures that have been made for some time occurred last evening under interesting circumstances. Before going into details it might be mentioned that it is believed a party of men at Canton had a grudge against the Yuen Fung Yuen bank, No. 47, Bonham Strand, one of the most influential native banks in the Colony, and had of late been trying to get that bank into malodour with its creditors. Yesterday afternoon information reached the Opium Farm to the effect that a basket of opium was about to be taken into the Yuen Fung Yuen bank at 8 o'clock that evening, and if excise officers were not at hand in time the drug would be distributed or removed before their arrival. Who gave this information nobody seems to know, but it is conjectured that it was the party who contemplated getting the bank into trouble by the presence of illicit opium on the premises. Before the time mentioned by the informer for the arrival of the drug, Chief Excise Officer Hoggarth with a party of excise men were lying outside the main entrance to the bank, unknown to the bank people. A few minutes before the time stated, a coolie carrying a basket over his shoulder rapped at the bank door, and stating that he had something for them, was admitted. At this stage Chief Excise Officer Hoggarth edged up to the door, and with his eye to the crack overheard this conversation:—"Receive this basket. A letter for you, too," and the coolie turned on his heels to make for the open. "Come back here," said somebody in the shop. "We don't expect any parcels at this time of the night. Who are you, and who sent you here?" The coolie whereupon replied:—"Don't know. Read the letter and find out," and he left. As soon as he got on the side walk he was pounced upon by Mr. Hoggarth and made to return to the bank to tender a satisfactory explanation both to him and to the bank people. When they entered the bank again, the coolie lagging behind with a guilty look on his face, the opium man called for the basket. It was in the same place, where the coolie placed it, and on examination it was found to contain a quantity of salt eggs and sweet meats and at the bottom of this a tin, about two feet long, containing 100 taels of prepared opium, valued at \$330. Knowing at once that this was a trick by the Canton party to get the bank people into disrepute, the coolie spent an unpleasant time under cross examination by the different parties. At first he remained reticent, but a flash apparently crossed his memory that if he delayed the excise officer by giving wrong information he would probably be released. Then he became communicative, and said that the person he was sure of in need of would be found at the Chung Wah Hotel. "Take us to the hotel and point the man out," was the statement next made by the officials that sent the coolie to his shoes. The hotel in question was searched and they learnt that their bird had flown hours ago. The next manoeuvre was to watch the Canton wharf, and there further information was received to the effect that the coolie then in custody had also—before going to the bank—taken on board the steamer *Faishan* certain personal effects. When taken with this advice admitted it, and took the officers to the place where some goods were stored, near which was spread a mat intended for some passenger. The goods consisted of native straw pillows, cushions and other personal effects. On examining these goods it was found that in one pillow was an aperture in the centre, in which the opium, now in the hands of the officers, was smuggled into the Colony. A few minutes later a long-coated Chinaman leisurely strolled up the wharf, and as he was pointed out as the person connected with the opium he was arrested, and together with the coolie, removed to the Station. They were this morning jointly charged with being in unlawful possession of opium. The coolie was discharged and the charge against the long-coated gentleman was altered (one of conspiring to divert the course of justice) on this charge. Mr. Malbone sentenced him to three months' hard labour and six hours' stocks.

DARING DAYLIGHT ROBBERY.

EUROPEAN HOUSE ENTERED.

13th inst.

Perhaps the principal offences which have occupied the attention of magistrates, sitting in the Police Court, for some time past have been thefts from the person, petty larcenies, shop-lifting, and burglaries, but these have, for the most part, been confined to the native residential districts, and have been perpetrated in those hours when the light "is dim and low"—the Oriental gloaming—when their actions are less likely to be observed, in the bright glare of day, and when their escape, after a successful attempt at annexing other people's unconscious riches, is more likely to be accomplished without much risk to the annexor. Now, however, it would appear that the burglarious fraternity is getting considerably more audacious, and no longer considers it worth while to confine their depredations to the native quarters of the City nor to select the dark hours, which would cover their movements as with a cloak, in which to make their pilfering expeditions, but is inclined to spread their operations into daylight. As an example of this, a case, pertinent to the point, is reported as having occurred between 8 a.m. and 8.30 a.m., yesterday, at No. 15, Wanchai Road, the residence of Mr. G. N. Nolan, of the Supreme Court. At that hour Mr. Nolan was upstairs getting dressed preparatory to taking his breakfast before leaving for office, while Mrs. Nolan was attending to the child. Downstairs the boys were busy preparing and laying the breakfast table, and were, necessarily, moving about all the time between kitchen and breakfast-room. Nevertheless, during that half hour, a burglar managed to enter the premises unseen by any of the inmates, and all undetected, to secrete and remove a solid silver tea-set, which was standing on the shelf of the sideboard, and which was valued at over \$130. With this booty the thief got clear away, without leaving any clue, whatever. It is supposed that the robber was disturbed or not at all while collecting his loot as he left a silver milk jug, belonging to the set he purloined, standing in its place, as well as another silver tea set on a shelf just above that from which he removed the set he annexed. As soon as the robbery was discovered a report was made to the police, but up to the present there is no trace of the thief or of the goods stolen.

A LAD, about ten years of age, was charged before Mr. H. Gompertz, at the Magistrate's Court on Thursday, with having opium in the public street at Wanchai. The father of the boy could not be found, but the mother appeared. His Worship said he had power either to whip the boy or send him to gaol, but he would give him a chance, discharging him with a caution.

GYMKHANA NOTES.

13th inst.

This, the third meeting of the Hongkong Gymkhana Club to be held on Saturday next, 16th instant, promises to be one of the most sporting meetings that have yet been held in this Colony.

There are quite a dozen new ponies fresh from the Shanghai race course, who have yet to make their initial bow to the Hongkong public.

With the return of Mr. W. J. Gresson, Mr. W. G. Clarke and Mr. D. Macdonald, things from a "horsey" point of view are beginning to boom.

In all, sixteen new ponies arrived in the Colony about three weeks ago, and out of this number eleven will probably face the starter on Saturday next.

It would be impossible at this stage to attempt to give correct tips, but a few notes on the form shown by different ponies may be useful to would-be backers.

The first race—the mile and a quarter handicap—should prove very interesting. Rostern and The Quail seem about the pick of the bunch. The former pony has only been beaten by half lengths. He looks fit and appears to be going in very good style, and I think one need not go farther to look for the winner.

Event No. 2 (Lime-cutting) is of the post-entry variety and needs no comment. But for the benefit of your many readers who have not as yet seen the programme I append the conditions of the race:—"Gallop past two posts (passing post on your right hand) on each of which a lemon (or potato) will be hung. At first post 'Cut No. 1 on the right' (i.e., forward cut level with shoulder); and at post 'Cut No. 2 on the right' (i.e., back cut level with shoulder). Points: 3 for a cut lemon; 1 for pace; 1 for style. First prize presented by Mr. C. H. Ross, 2nd Prize \$25. Entrance fee \$3.

The third event—the Gymkhana Challenge Club Cup, distance one mile—is always the race of the meeting, and I venture to say that this will prove one of the most exciting and desperate races of the day. There are five new ponies entered, but amongst these I do not look for the winner. Blue Nile, who it will be remembered won the last race for the Cup, and now leads the list with a total of five marks, will, I regret to hear, very likely be a non-starter, as he is slightly under the weather. Pathan is well in at 100 lb., but once exchanges gallop last evening, on the training track, which meant only a mile, I think he will be quite the best of the ponies likely to start for this race, and the pony that can show him the colour of his heels would be a little wonder.

The condition of the ladies' nomination race will be as follows:—"Each lady will be provided with polo balls. Ladies to stand on the mud course, gentlemen (dismounted) on the grass course. Ponies may be held by mabos. On the women's 'go' ladies will throw polo balls to gentlemen, and as soon as a gentleman has secured three, he can mount and ride to a point indicated and deposit polo balls in a basket. First past the post with three balls in basket to win. Polo balls must be carried in the hands—pockets, &c., may not be used. First and second prizes presented by the Club. Entrance fee \$3.

Event No. 5—the three-quarters of a mile flat race—should prove a walk-over for Red Herring. He has been going very well lately, in full of muscle, has a superbious figure, and is one of the fittest ponies on the course. I expect him to be followed home by Lashmere, who is a very good pony, but palpably unfit.

Race No. 6—The hurdles. This race seems to have taken on a new lease of life as there are seven entries, according to the programme. The Quail, Exchange King, and Rostern appear to be the pick of the bunch. Rostern, who, on one occasion prior to this, jumped in very bad style and dislocated a leg, at the third hurdle, now appears to take an interest in the game and as he has been schooled over the sticks very thoroughly, and has taken to the game

At the Police Court on Monday, Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne fined a woman \$10 for cruelly ill-treating her servant girl. Sergeant Grant, who made the arrest, said that the body of the girl, who was about six years old, was covered with bruises, while there were several bruises on her face. This was caused by defendant beating her with a piece of rattan.

Two coolies were charged at the instance of Inspector Ritchie, before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne on Monday, with damaging a lamp-post in Aberdeen Street, yesterday, with a truck. It was stated that defendants lost control of the truck in coming down Aberdeen Street and it collided with the post, doing \$2 damage. His Worship fined them \$3 each, and ordered them to pay \$2 as compensation for the damage done.

A CHINAMAN was summoned on Tuesday, before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, for obstructing the footpath outside his shop with boxes. The Chinaman denied the charge, and the case was nearly coming to an end when it was discovered that the defendant before the Court was the wrong man. The sergeant who prosecuted then admitted that such was the case, saying that he could recognise the real alleged offender. Of course, the man in the dock was discharged.

CARRYING fifteen passengers in excess of the number allowed by his licence, was the charge against the master of a motor junk, at the Magistrate's Court on Wednesday. Constable Edwards said that the junk was licensed to carry only thirty-three passengers, but when boarded yesterday morning there were forty-eight coolies on board. These coolies were in the habit of carrying excess passengers. Mr. F. A. Hazeland imposed a fine of \$10.

INSPECTOR Goudy proceeded against nineteen coolies, at the Police Court on Monday, one coolie being charged with keeping a common gaming house at No. 17, Amoy Lane, while the others were charged with gambling on the premises. The first defendant was fined \$30, and the remainder \$2 each, by Mr. Melbourne. Similar fines were also imposed upon fourteen coolies who were arrested yesterday, gambling at No. 38 Peel Street.

A CHINESE constable from No. 7 Police Station, West Point, came before Mr. H. Gumpertz, at the Police Court on Thursday, and pleaded guilty to robbing one of his comrades of the sum of \$31, yesterday. Defendant was alleged to have waited until the other man went on duty. Then he tampered with his trunk. His Worship said defendant did not have a very good character in the force, having been fined no less than sixteen times for misconduct, and he would sentence him to one month's gaol.

THE Hon. E. Carleton Baker, the recently appointed American Consul for Fouchow, has arrived and has taken over the seals of office. The *N. C. H. News* correspondent says: "He comes well equipped for the service, having recently graduated from the University of California when he pursued the studies of law and commerce. The Americans gave him a hearty welcome at the residence of the Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Eyles. There is a little disappointment on the part of some at there being no lady at the Consulate at present."

THE mistress of a fishing boat was charged by Constable Edwards at the Police Court on Wednesday with using her boat for other purposes than fishing and being in possession of a quantity of coal. The defendant said that the coal discovered on board her junk was dredged for but on minute examination of a lump of coal taken from one of the bags her story was disbelieved, the officer saying that water was poured over the coal on board the junk so as to substantiate her story. Coal dredged from the harbour could easily be known. Mr. Hazeland fined her \$25.

WAN LUK, a salesman, appeared before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Police Court on Wednesday, charged with bringing mail matter into the Colony from the interior of China without first obtaining permission from the Postmaster-General. Defendant pleaded guilty, averring that he did not know the law. Mr. Lewis, who appeared on behalf of the Postmaster-General, said that defendant was not employed as a licensed *hong*, and he was known to the police as having carried on this "black" trade. His Worship fined the defendant \$25, with the option of six weeks' gaol.

A COOLIE by name Chan Hin was arrested on Wednesday afternoon for stealing a quantity of zinc from a Chinese shop. On the way to the Station he asked the policeman to give him a chance, but as the officer paid no heed, the coolie dug his hands into his pocket and gave the policeman a \$1 to be released. The policeman took the Mexican, but Chan was not given liberty. At the Central Police Station the prisoner was entered on two charges—steal and bribery. He was placed before Mr. F. A. Hazeland on Thursday, and sentenced to fourteen days' hard labour on the first count, and on the second, to pay a fine of \$25, with the option of one month's gaol. The money given as bribe to be placed in the poor box.

AFTER relieving the quarter-master of the *Sat Hin* of his only blanket, during a recent trip from Canton, Chan Chiu, an unemployed, returned to the ship on Sunday afternoon, to see if there were more articles that took his fancy. On this occasion Chan did not meet with any success. As no blanket had been given the deck of the *Sat Hin* man he was recognised and punished again by two of the crew and taken to the quarter-master's cabin. There the unfortunate Chan was searched and in one of his pockets was discovered a pawn-ticket for a blanket. The coolie was given in charge, the blanket was produced by the pawnbroker and identified by the quarter-master as his property. In the charge-room Chan admitted stealing the "covering" and signed his statement, but when placed before Mr. Melbourne, at the Magistrate's Court on Monday, he denied signing the statement-book. As the case had been tried for over an hour, his Worship adjourned it.

LEUNG Yee, a chair coolie, was charged on Monday, before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne with (1) behaving in a disorderly manner whilst drunk at No. 11, Graham Street; (2) assaulting one Chan Hey; and (3) damaging property in the house. Leung pleaded not guilty. On Saturday afternoon defendant entered the restaurant and ordered a meal, not forgetting *samshu*. After Leung had satisfied his appetite, he got up and started to leave the premises. The waiter ran after him, and was informed by Leung that the money to pay for the "chow." The waiter said that Leung should not leave the house, whereupon Leung averred that he was a gentleman, and asked whether they thought him did not mind his words. This annoyed the waiter and a fight followed, in which Leung came out second best, and was handed over to a policeman with his shoulder bleeding. He was removed to the charge-room of the Central Station, his shoulder attended to, and he was put before the Court. His Worship fined defendant \$5, and ordered him to pay the waiter twenty cents as compensation.

CHIEF Detective Inspector Hanson proceeded against two coolies, before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Magistrate's Court on Tuesday, for stealing \$187 worth of clothing and money from No. 31, Bridge Street, on the 8th instant. The case was adjourned.

IN Original Jurisdiction on Monday, before his Honour Sir Francis Pigott, Chief Justice, the Li Shing family dispute over the one-sixteenth part of Marine Lot No. 325 and Island No. 2355 was resumed, further evidence for the defence being heard.

THE report of the November promotion examinations, recently issued, shows that the highest place amongst the captain of the regular army was taken by Captain O. L. Price, Royal Garrison Artillery, No. 4 Company, Hongkong-Singapore Battalion R.G.A., Hongkong. His score was the very fine one of 1,321 marks, out of a possible 1,600.

FIVE owners of sampans were brought before Mr. H. H. J. Gumpertz, at the Magistrate's Court on Monday, charged with making fast to the s.s. *Agura* whilst that vessel was under weigh in the harbour yesterday. The defendants said that the vessel was just dropping her anchor. Lance-sergeant Connell, who prosecuted, said that three of the defendants had already had a previous conviction for a similar offence. His Worship imposed a penalty of \$50 each, or two months' hard labour.

GAMBLING in the markets has been a common practice among unemployed coolies lately. They find that being in the open they are less likely to be caught in a trap by the police than in the markets. That their view is correct is evident from the fact that although a gang of men were gambling in the Central Market yesterday, when the police swept down on them they only succeeded in capturing two boys. These, on being placed before Mr. Gumpertz this morning, were fined \$3 each.

LANCE-Sergeant Chas. Wilden placed two coolies before Mr. H. H. J. Gumpertz, at the Police Court this morning, charged with being found in the servants' quarters of No. 1, Kowloon Villa, Kowloon, at noon, yesterday, without permission. The officer said he went to the house on another business and on entering the kitchen found the defendants. "One of the defendants is employed at the Yau-mai Gas Works, the other being a houseboy. They pleaded guilty and were fined \$5 each."

MR. H. P. White, of Messrs. Douglas, Lapnik and Company, summoned the chair coolies of chairs Nos. 82 and 339 at the Police Court on Monday, for refusing to accept a fare when called in Robinson Road on the 10th inst. The complainant said that on that particular night he was refused by three different chairs. One refused to take him at Robinson Road, the other at Seymour Road and the third—the number of which he could not get—refused him in Castle Road. Complainant said that this refusing to accept fares is of frequent occurrence. The defendants denied seeing the complainant on that night. Mr. F. A. Hazeland fined each chair coolie \$5.

"Why don't you pay your rent?" asked his Honour Mr. A. G. Wise, Pannu Judge, of a young Chinese female defendant in a case before him in summary jurisdiction this morning. "Because my mother-in-law is dead," replied the defendant. (Laughter.) "What has your mother-in-law to do with it?" asked his Honour. "How can I pay anything when my mother-in-law is dead? She died in April and I can't pay anything without her." "Are you still occupying the house in question?" "Yes, I have to live there." "Then you must pay judgment with costs." "Am I to pay at once?" queried the plaintiff, judgment debtor, "or shall I pay it?" "You'd better pay it as soon as possible, or there may be further trouble for you," replied his Honour, as the usher hustled the dame out of the Court.

It is rumoured in Chinese official circles that the prospect of the restoration to China of Weihaiwei is soon to be *un fait accompli*, but that the British Government desires a quid pro quo for its compliance. This is the content of the projected Tientsin Chinkiang Railway which appears to be destined to the gentry and officials of the three provinces concerned, namely, Chihli, Shantung and Kiangsu. As a matter of fact although the *Waiwung* in its desire to get back Weihaiwei is stated to be quite willing to concede to the British wish for a limited period of time, the matter is still hanging fire, owing to a strongly worded petition to the Council of State Affairs (Chou-chu-fu) signed by all the most influential natives of the three provinces holding office in Peking and other provinces of the Empire.

THE *Asahi* publishes particulars, together with a somewhat repulsive picture, of a strange trunk of nature at Osaka. It appears that a male child born at Sakamoto, Danmura, Yamato, some two months ago, shortly afterwards developed a swelling below the left eye, the swelling afterwards became enlarged to the size of a child's fist, the baby was put under treatment at the Osaka Hospital on the 26th ult., when the swelling was unexpectedly found to contain a tiny child, having the head and four limbs complete as well as nails and organs, though everything was, of course, in miniature. On the 25th, the baby was subjected to an operation but seems to have felt no particular pain. Its health does not appear to have been affected, but it is not stated whether the "twin" was dead or alive—*Kohle Herald*.

THE Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Netherdale Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—

H. Skott \$100
Jardine, Matheson & Co. 100
Boulton & Swan 100
Longkong & Shanghai Bank 100
J. R. M. Smith 100
Punchard Lowther & Co. 100
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J. R. Wood 10
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SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Messrs. E. S. KADOORIE & Co. Corrected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 5.

STOCKS.	NO. OF SHARES.	VALUE.	PAID UP.	RESERVE.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT. AT WORKING ACCOUNT.	LAST DIVIDEND.	PROFITABLE RETURN AT PRESENT QUOTATION.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
BANKS.								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	80,000	\$125	\$125	\$1,000,000 \$500,000 \$500,000	\$1,699,777	\$1 15/- div. and 1/- bonus @ ex. 2/5/16 = \$26.87 for 2nd half-year 1905	5 1/2 %	\$815 (London 201
National Bank of China, Limited	99,925	£1	£5	\$1,000,000 \$147,895	\$74,099	\$2 (London 3/6) for 1905	...	\$38
MARINE INSURANCES.								
Union Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,600,000 \$147,895	\$211,110	\$20 for 1904	5 1/2 %	\$355
North China Insurance Co., Limited	10,000	£15	£5	£100,000 Tls. 100,000 Tls. 50,000	11,302,053	Interim div. of 7/6 @ ex. 2/10/15/16 Tls. 2.62 on account 1905	5 1/2 %	Tls. 85 sales
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	10,000	\$250	\$100	\$2,000,000 \$311,131 \$1,533,844 \$569,279 \$800,000 \$61,278 \$15,327	\$2,727,71	Interim div. of 7/6 for 1905	5 %	\$800
Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited	8,000	\$100	\$60	\$1,000,000 \$229,488 \$2,615 \$1,220,928	\$50,134	\$12 and \$3 special dividend for 1904	8 1/2 %	\$125
FIRE INSURANCES.								
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$1,000,000 \$229,488 \$2,615 \$1,220,928	\$344,018	\$6 for 1904	7 %	\$85
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,000,000 \$229,488 \$2,615 \$1,220,928	\$422,618	\$25 for 1904	8 %	\$305
SHIPPING.								
China and India Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	\$25	\$25	\$6,000 \$264,638 \$88,941	\$6,563	\$1 for 1905	7 1/2 %	\$21
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	\$50	\$50	\$250,000 \$554,331 \$500,000 \$154,331 \$220,000 \$244,151	\$12,180	\$3 1/2 for year ended 30.6.1905	8 1/2 %	\$40 buyers
Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$15	\$15	\$500,000 \$154,331 \$220,000 \$244,151	\$4,433	\$1 for 2nd half-year making \$2 for 1905	8 %	\$25 buyers
Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited	20,000	£10	£10	\$2,000,000 \$399,999 \$1,600,000 \$1,399,999	\$1,395	12/- @ 1/101 = \$6.20.51 for 1904 Final Tls. 3 making Tls. 5 for 1905 Final Tls. 12 making Tls. 3 1/2 for 1905 1/- (Coupon No. 6 for 1905)	8 1/2 % 8 % 7 1/2 % 4 %	\$77 buyers Tls. 65 sales Tls. 51 buyers 27/-
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	200,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	\$400,000 \$1,144	\$107,815	\$1.50 for year ending 30.4.1906	4 %	\$30
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited (Preference)	200,000	£1	£1	\$65,000 \$32,917	\$218	\$1.50 for year ending 30.4.1906	3 1/2 %	\$21
Star Ferry Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$5	Tls. 98,000 Tls. 350,479 Tls. 48,000 Tls. 81,200	13,913	Final of Tls. 2 making Tls. 4 for 1905	9 %	Tls. 45 sales
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	200,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	\$400,000 \$1,144	\$107,815	\$1.50 for year ending 30.4.1906	4 %	\$30
REFINERIES.								
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	20,000	\$100	\$100	\$850,000 \$86,119	\$40,914	Final of \$15 making \$25 for 1905	15 1/2 %	\$160 buyers
Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited	20,000	\$100	\$100	none	\$132,588	\$3 for 1897	...	\$20 sellers
Perak Sugar Cultivation Company, Limited	20,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 100,000	Tls. 3,723	Tls. 2 1/2 for year ending 31.10.04	...	Tls. 107 1/2 sellers
MINING.								
Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ltd.	100,000	£1	£1	\$80,000 \$26,011	\$13,355	1/- (No. 6) interim div. for 12 months ending 28.2.06	7 %	Tls. 9.90 buyers
Consolidated Mining Company, Limited	100,000	£1	£1	none	\$90,050	Final 91.50 cents making \$1 for 1905	7 %	C. \$14
Robt. Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited	100,000	£1	£1	\$4,873	\$8,745	No. 12 of 1/- = 48 cents	...	\$3 buyers
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.								
Fenwick (Gos.) & Co., Limited	18,000	\$25	\$25	\$70,000	\$8,915	\$2 for 1905	9 %	\$22
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.	40,000	\$50	\$50	\$500,000 \$61,160 \$20,000	\$20,040	Final of \$3 1/2 making \$6 for 1905	5 1/2 %	\$103
Whampoa Dock Company, Ltd.	20,000	\$50	\$50	\$49,500	\$362,232	\$6 for second half-year making \$12 for 1905	7 1/2 %	\$160
New Amoy Dock Company, Limited	20,000	\$50	\$50	\$49,500	\$362,232	\$1 for 1905	5 1/2 %	\$18
Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd.	20,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 1,000,000 Tls. 487,213 Tls. 37,055	Tls. 34,924	Interim of Tls. 4 for year 1905/6	10 1/2 %	Tls. 114 sales
Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf Company, Limited	20,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 1,000,000 Tls. 487,213 Tls. 37,055	Tls. 37,055	Final of Tls. 8 making Tls. 14 for 1905	6 1/2 %	Tls. 225 sales
Yangtze Wharf and Godown Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 100,000	Tls. 2,668	Tls. 18 for 1905	8 1/2 %	Tls. 220 buyers
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDING.								
Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ltd.	25,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	none	none	First year	8 %	Tls. 100
Central House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai)	20,000	\$25	\$25	\$14,516	\$9,028	\$4 for year ended 30.6.1905	13 1/2 %	\$31 buyers
Central Stores, Limited	20,000	\$15	\$15	none	\$4,719	\$2.40 on \$12 for 1905	...	\$18 sales
Do. (new issue)	24,000	\$15	\$15	none	\$4,719	\$7.20 on \$12 for 1905	...	\$15 sales
Do. (Founders')	123	\$15	\$15	none	\$4,719	None	...	\$300 buyers
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	20,000	\$50	\$50	\$648,075 \$24,071	\$619	\$5 for second half-year making \$10 for 1905	7 1/2 %	\$130
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$100	\$100	\$23,000 Tls. 20,723	\$167,839	Final of \$3 1/2 making \$7 for 1905	6 %	\$118
Hotel des Colonies Company, Limited	20,000	Tls. 25	Tls. 25	none	\$1,469	Final of 6 = 10 % for 1905	14 1/2 %	Tls. 15 sales
Hotel Metropole Company, Limited	2,000	\$100	\$100	\$268,386	\$5,070	Final of \$6 making \$10	10 %	\$100
Humphreys Estate & Finance Company, Limited	20,000	\$10	\$10	\$50,000	\$5,070	80 cents for 1905	7 %	\$114
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited	20,000	\$50	\$50	none	\$574	\$2 1/2 for 1905	4 1/2 %	\$39
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	20,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 869,491 Tls. 170,000	Tls. 52,194	Final of Tls. 3 making Tls. 6 for 1905	5 1/2 %	Tls. 115 1/2 sales
West Point Building Company, Limited	12,500	\$50	\$50	none	\$772	Final of \$1.90 making \$3.65 for 1905	7 %	\$53
COTTON MILLS.								
Two Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ltd.	15,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 45,939	Tls. 100,000	Tls. 8 for year ended 31.10.1905	11 1/2 %	Tls. 70 sellers
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Company, Limited	125,000	\$10	\$10	\$30,000	\$23,264	\$1 for the year ending 31.7.05	7 %	\$14 buyers
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	10,000	Tls. 75	Tls. 75	Tls. 103,900	Tls. 18,718	3 % d/c 1898	10 1/2 %	Tls. 63 sellers
Loou-kung-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd.	2,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	none	Tls. 30,760	Tls. 8 for 1905	10 1/2 %	Tls. 74 sellers
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 500	Tls. 500	Tls. 18,416	Tls. 35,980	Tls. 25 for 1904	8 %	Tls. 310 buyers
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Anglo-German Brewery Company, Limited	4,000	\$100	\$100	none	\$1,066	\$7 for 1905	7 1/2 %	\$95 sellers
Hall's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited	8,604	12/6	12/6	\$114	\$770	1/3 per share for 1904	9 %	\$7 1/2 buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co., Limited	1,200	\$10	\$10	\$10,000	\$1,007	\$3 for 1905	9 1/2 %	\$39
China Borneo Company, Limited	60,000	\$12	\$12	none	Nil	\$1 for 1904	12 1/2 %	\$7 buyers
China Flour Mill Co., Limited	4,000	Tls. 40	Tls. 40	\$50,000	Tls. 889	Final of Tls. 5 making Tls. 10 for 1905	12 1/2 %	Tls. 79 sales
China Light and Power Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	none	\$1,219	60 cents for year ended 28.2.06	6 %	\$10 buyers
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company, Ltd.	100,000	\$10	\$10	\$8,000	\$1,581	80 cents for 1905	9 %	\$9
Dairy Farm Company, Limited	25,000	\$7 1/2	\$6	\$25,000 \$10,000	\$2,864	\$1.20 for year ending 31.7.1905	7 1/2 %	\$16
Green Island Cement Company, Limited	150,000	\$10	\$10	\$500,000 \$186,000	\$32,291	\$2 dividend and 50 cents bonus for 1905	8 1/2 %	\$28 1/2
Hall & Holtz, Limited	21,000	\$20	\$20	none	\$20,893	\$2 1/2 for year ending 28.2.05	13 1/2 %	\$22 sales
Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	60,000	\$10	\$10	none	\$2,568	\$1.00 for 10 months ending 28.2.06	7 1/2 %	\$15 1/2 sales
Hongkong High-Level Tramways Company, Ltd.	1,250	\$100	\$100	\$10,000 \$10,000	\$3,796	\$15 for year ending 30.11.1904	8 1/2 %	\$235
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	\$25	\$25	\$50,000	\$3,776	Final of \$15 making \$19 for 1905	8 %	\$240 buyers
Hongkong Steam Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$50,000	\$5,813	\$9 for 1905 on 5 shares	6 1/2 %	\$29
Hongkong Steam Waterboat Company, Limited	15,000	\$10	\$10	\$15,000	\$388	Final of 50 cents making \$1 for the year	11 %	\$9
Maatschappij tot Mijn- Busch en Landbouw- plooiing in Langkat, Limited	25,000	Gs. 100	Gs. 100	Tls. 47,501 Tls. 27,603	Tls. 10,724	first interim of Tls. 7 1/2 paid 15.3.06 account 1905	9 1/2 %	Tls. 235 sales
Philippine Company, Limited	67,500	\$10	\$10	none	Dr. P. 34,321	None	...	\$5 buyers
Shanghai Gas Company, Limited	16,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 165,000	Tls. 11,017	Tls. 3 1/2 final & Tls. 1 1/2 bonus making Tls. 5 for 1905	6 1/2 %	Tls. 135 seller
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.	5,400	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 45,000 Tls. 37,000	Tls. 9,751	Tls. 6 for 1904	11 %	Tls. 55 sellers
Shanghai Pulp and Paper Company, Limited	4,500	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 37,000 Tls. 8,000	Tls. 2,753	Final of Tls. 8 making Tls. 14 for 1905	9 1/2 %	Tls. 120 seller
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 20	Tls. 20	Tls. 25,000	Tls. 1,452	Final of Tls. 3 making Tls. 5 for 1905	7 %	Tls. 72 buyers
Shanghai Waterworks Company, Limited	7,200	£20	£10	Tls. 190,000	Tls. 85,592	Final of 37/6 making 52/6 for 1905/6	...	Tls. 370 seller
South China Morning Post, Limited	7,200	\$25	\$25	none	Dr. \$44,089	None	...	Tls. 280 sales
Steam Laundry Company, Limited	20,000	\$5	\$5	Tls. 15,295	\$1,134	50 cents for year ended 31.5.05	8 1/2 %	\$6
Tientsin Waterworks Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 4,000	Tls. 1,012	Interim of Tls. 4 for year 1905/6	7 1/2 %	Tls. 110
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited	9,900	\$10	\$10	\$22,000	\$551	80 cents for year ended 31.5.1905	9 %	\$9
Do. (Founders')	100	\$10	\$10	\$300,000 \$25,000	\$7,734	Final of 50 cents making \$1 for 1905	7 1/2 %	\$13 buyers
Watson (A. S.) & Co., Limited	90,000	\$10	\$10	\$45,000	\$676	Interim div. of 50 cts. for the year 1905/6	10 %	\$10 1/2
William Powell, Limited	15,000	\$10	\$10	\$45,000	\$676	Interim div. of 50 cts. for the year 1905/6	10 %	\$10 1/2
DIVIDENDS PAYABLE:—								
Maatschappij &c. in Langkat	Tls. 7 1/2							15th June

Printed and Published by TSE FENG HANG, for the Hongkong Telegraph Company, Limited, at the Printing Office of the Company, No. 1, The House Road, in the City of Victoria, Hongkong.

Intimations.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

AERATED WATER MANUFACTURERS.

Per Doz. Inclusive of Bottles.	
Soda Water	\$1.70
do. (Bombay bottles)	1.80
Potash, Seltzer and B. P.	
Soda	1.80
Lemonade	1.80
Tonic Water	1.80
Lithia Water	1.95
Ginger Ale	1.95
Sarsaparilla	1.95
Lemon Squash	1.95
Raspberryade	1.95
Stong Ginger Beer	1.95

Bottles returned in good condition are allowed for at the rate of \$1.20 per doz.

SYPHONS.

Per Doz.	
Soda Water	\$19.50
Potash Seltzer and B. P.	
Soda	19.80
Lithia Water	20.00

\$18 per doz. is allowed on Syphons returned in good condition.

We specially recommend our STONE GINGER BEER which is brewed from the finest Jamaica Root by our own special process.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

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Hongkong, 9th June, 1906.

POST CARD
COMPETITION.

To all purchasers at our Establishment of \$1 and upwards between June 1st and June 25th will be given a Coupon entitling them to enter the following Competition. The largest number of English words that can be made from "MARIE BRIZARD."

1st Prize:

1 Case Pts. Perinet & Fils Champagne \$56.50

2nd Prize:

1 Case Royal Old Highland Whisky - 24.00

3rd Prize:

1 Case Macintosh Whisky 10.00

AND

10 CONSOLATION PRIZES.

In the event of ties to be drawn for. All replies to be sent on Post-cards only. Prizes will be distributed the 30th June when all cards may be inspected at our office.

CASH LESS 10%
CREDIT LESS 5%.

GREGOR & CO.,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.
19, QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL.
Hongkong, 29th May, 1906.

NOTICE.

All communications intended for publication in "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be addressed to The Editor, 1, Ice House Road, and should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address.

Ordinary business communications should be addressed to The Manager.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MS., nor to return any Contribution.

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Single Copies: Daily, ten cents; Weekly, twenty-five cents.

BIRTHS.

On the 10th June, at Shanghai, the wife of T. E. DUMM, Chinese Engineering and Mining Co., Ltd., of a daughter.

On the 11th June, at Shanghai, the wife of J. G. CARAGHAN, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On the 11th June, at Shanghai, HENRY W. CHANDLER, of Woodmansterne, Surrey, to ELIZA MACGREGOR, daughter of the late David Aitken and Mrs. Aitken, of Singapore.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1906.

THE "GAZETTE."

In connection with the proposal of the Government to withdraw from certain *hongs* the privilege which they have hitherto enjoyed of collecting Chinese letters in Hongkong intended for delivery to Chinese firms and persons in Canton, and distributing them through the media of responsible parties in Canton—a reform brought about by the declared ability of the Imperial Chinese Post Office to undertake the duty—certain remarks were made on the vote in the Legislative Council which are entitled to consideration. The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai asked whether the *hongs* which were empowered to collect and deliver Hongkong letters in Canton had been informed of the new arrangement? In reply, the Colonial Secretary said he presumed that the Postmaster-General had informed the *hongs* that their services would be no longer required, but he, at least, had taken no step to make the arrangement known to them personally. But, he added, "the new regulations have appeared in the *Gazette*." The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai observed that: "The *Government Gazette* is not read by them," and therein lay the crux of the situation. It is immaterial whether the Postmaster-General of his own initiative informed the *hongs* of the new arrangement. That is beside the question. The point is that the Government seem to believe that they have only to print an announcement in the official *Gazette* and forthwith it becomes public property. As a matter of fact it might be buried in the deepest depths of the harbour and yet obtain as much publicity as it does through the medium of the *Gazette*. There may be a few people in Hongkong who spend their spare moments in perusing the columns of the *Gazette*, but it is safe to say that the vast majority in Hongkong has never even seen the publication, far less read it. They could not tell its size or its shape, and many would be at loss to say whether it is issued daily, weekly, monthly or annually. To go farther, we may say with confidence that many respectable persons never heard of it. The press of Hongkong endeavour to obtain nutriment from this work of art, but readers of the *Hongkong Telegraph* must be well aware that it is a labour of no ordinary magnitude to wade through the mass of verbosity in which announcements are made. Not only that, but the phraseology is frequently so involved and archaic that it is actually misleading. We have repeatedly quoted instances where the writers in the *Gazette* made statements which they actually did not mean and had finally to retract. And this is the instrument by which the Chinese are to learn what the Government intends to do, and what's what! As a rule a Bluebook is generally more interesting than the *Government Gazette*, which occupies such a high place in the minds of the officials. The *Gazette* is mainly valuable as a pigeon-hole where matters of public concern may be filed and forgotten, but as a medium of communication with the general public it is absolutely useless. Where the Chinese community is concerned it should be a standing rule that personal notification should be made of the Government's intentions, so that none should be in a position to say they contravened the law in ignorance. As a bulwark of the State and an institution of the Crown the *Gazette* must be viewed with the utmost respect, but it requires a very keen eye to discern its actual usefulness—except as a book of reference for future generations.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Six cases of plague, all fatal, occurred during the twenty-four hours ended at noon to-day.

Mr. F. Southey has been appointed chief draughtsman on the Kowloon-Canton Railway Construction Staff, with effect from the 9th instant.

THE sampan woman who was yesterday charged with carrying passengers, when holding a fishing boat's licence, was this morning, at the Magistracy, fined \$5, by Mr. Gompertz.

THE Chinese Engineering and Mining Co.'s total output of the Company's three mines for the week ending the 2nd inst., amounted to 20,211.78 tons and the sales during the same period to 20,481.92 tons.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to recognise Mr. Bela Szentirmay von Darvasto as I. and R. Consul for Austria-Hungary in this Colony, in succession to Mr. Nikolaus Post, transferred.

THE Japanese Resident at Mokpo has informed the Residency-General that the Japanese destroyers *Shinonome* and *Sazanami* arrived at Mokpo on the 31st ultimo. These vessels will proceed on a cruise in search of pirates upon the arrival of two more destroyers.

THE directors of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. have issued invitations for the trial trip of the s.s. *Loongwa* on Monday. The steamer leaves Kowloon Dock at 10 a.m. and will return at about 4 p.m. The *Loongwa* has been built to the order of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co.

YAU Shui, master, Lau, Hing and Tsz Lau, coolies, were charged this morning, at the instance of Sergeant Earnest, before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, with dumping rubbish in the harbour. The three defendants pleaded guilty to the charge and were fined \$50 each, in default two months' hard labour.

PROGRAMME of music to be performed by the Band of the 11th Infantry, on the New Parade Ground, on Monday next, from 5 to 6.30 p.m.:—
March....."The Voice is Near".....Benjamin
Intermission....."Love is Illness".....Macheth
Waltz....."Mia Cara".....Bacalovi
Selection....."The Pirates of Penzance".....Sullivan
Song....."I'll Sing the Songs of Araby".....Chay
Patrol....."The Egyptian Patrol".....Laurie
God Save the King.

THE fire alarm was sounded just before eight o'clock last night giving warning that a fire had broken out at the Peak. There must have been something in the wind, for only two firemen turned out from barracks and arrived at the Peak, to find that it was a false alarm. It was rumoured that Mountain View was ablaze. The two alert fire-fighters went to know who gave the false alarm.

THE master of the steamer *Manila* charged a sampanman before Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz, at the Magistracy this morning, with stealing one coil of Manila rope, the property of the ship. Evidence was heard to the effect that defendant stole the rope from the store room of the ship, put in on board his boat, and was about to quit the ship when he was arrested. A sentence of two months' hard labour and six hours' stocks was passed.

AT the instance of Sergeant Lee, twenty-five coolies were paraded before Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz, at the Police Court this morning, being charged with keeping a common gaming house at No. 4, Moon Street, Wanchai, and the remainder with gambling on the premises, yesterday. It was stated defendants were playing *po-kee*. Evidence was heard, and his Worship fined the two leaders \$50 and \$30, respectively. The remainder got off with \$3 each.

IT is stated in Chinese official circles that Their Majesties have approved of H. E. Viceroy Chow Fu's recommendation to abolish the sale or purchase of old and young females throughout the Empire. This law applies to officials as well as the common people and instructions are being issued to all Viceroys and Governors of provinces to enforce the law under all and every circumstance upon receipt of an Imperial Rescript inaugurating the law.—*N. C. D. News.*

A HANGKOW dispatch reports that owing to the owners of silk looms in that city having decided upon certain new regulations affecting their employees, the latter went on strike on the 9th inst. and it is feared that unless a settlement be arrived at soon there will be trouble in store for the silk loom owners. The dispatch also reports a rice riot in the city of Hsinchéng, not far from Hangchow, on the same day, in which the mob wrecked a number of grain shops and salt godowns. In some cases robbery followed the destruction of the shops. Troops are being sent to restore order.

A "boy" employed at No. 3, Knutsford Terrace, Kowloon, has been taught a lesson that he will not soon forget. On the evening of the 13th instant he took in a friend and offered him food and to share his bed. The following morning when the boy awoke he found his guest gone, and so was his silver watch. He reported the matter to the police, and yesterday the man was arrested, but the watch had already been pawned. The pawnbroker identified defendant as the man who pawned the timepiece. On being placed before Mr. Gompertz, at the Magistracy this forenoon, his Worship sentenced him to one month's hard labour and six hours' stocks.

THE WEATHER.

The following report is from Mr. F. G. Figg, First Assistant of the Hongkong Observatory:—
On the 15th at 11.40 a. The barometer has fallen over China and Japan owing to the depression, which is moving into the Yellow Sea to the North of Shanghai.
Pressure continues to give way slowly in the Philippines, and it is now slightly in defect over the area.
The highest pressure is over NE. Japan.
Fresh SW. winds may be expected in the Formosa Channel and light variable winds over the China Sea.
Forecast:—SW. or variable winds, light to

HONGKONG VOLUNTEERS.

CAMP REPORT.

The Camp report of the Commandant of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps for 1905, reads:—
Out of the total number of 19 officers and 219 N.C.O.'s and men, 13 officers and 169 N.C.O.'s and men were away on leave of absence, or had leave from camp owing to the exigencies of their business. This total does not include the Hongkong Volunteer Troop, who did not attend the Camp.
The average daily attendance was 127.5
It is very satisfactory to note that in spite of the period of the camp having been extended from 10 to 16 days, the attendance works out a better proportion than in any previous years. A result which is far better than I expected.

DISCIPLINE.

The discipline of all ranks was excellent. The work done during the Camp was extremely good and the extension of the period from 10 to 16 days proved a great success, as I hoped, the extra knowledge gained by all ranks resulting in far higher state of efficiency than has been attained in former years.

Numerous improvements were introduced into the Camp, the most important being the thorough lighting of the Camp with electric light by the Engineer Company, the greater comfort of the Hospital tent, and an improved ablution place for the men.

The Officers attended the Camp even better than in previous years; every Officer present in the Colony attended nearly the whole time, the average attendance of Officers being 12 out of 13 each day.

Captain Armstrong's Company, Right Half No. 2 Company H. K. V. A., showed a record attendance, every man attending Camp except those on leave.

The Corps Sergeant-Major gave me the greatest assistance as usual and the Corps Armourer-Sergeant and the Instructors all carried out their duties to the satisfaction of all ranks.

The Naval range and the revolver range were very kindly placed at the disposal of the Corps by Commodore Williams, and the arrangements made by the Petty Officer and his assistants to enable the members of the Corps to complete their musketry course were very satisfactory.

His Excellency the General Officer Commanding made the following comments on the above Camp report:—
"This is a satisfactory report, for it shows progress all round and the attainment of greater proficiency. The good attendance is the outward, and visible sign of the determination of all ranks to improve themselves."

CLAIM FOR RENT.

DEAD RATS NOT WANTED.

In Summary Jurisdiction yesterday morning, His Honour Mr. A. G. Wise, Puisne Judge, presiding, Kwok Nam sued Lin Cho Yun to recover the sum of \$29, being the amount of rent due for a house in First Street for 45 days, let by plaintiff to defendant.

Plaintiff produced his books and proved his claim.

His Honour (to defendant): Do you owe this money?

Defendant: Let me explain all about it, my Lord. I had a lot of boarders, but they were not taken ill and went away, so I could not pay my rent. Besides, some dead rats were found about the house, and I don't want dead rats.

His Honour: Have you been in the house 45 days?—I think so; but dead rats were found there.

His Honour: And are you living there now?—Yes, my Lord, I am still living there.

His Honour: Well, I am sorry for you, but you must pay your rent, and I must give judgment with costs against you.

MAD BULLS ESCAPE IN SINGAPORE.

SEVEN HOURS' EXCITING CHASE.

Shortly before eleven o'clock the other morning a young bullock broke loose in the yard of the Singapore Municipal Abattoirs, whilst the process of branding was going on, and charged around the compound several times. By its infuriated manner it was judged to be mad. The animal soon confirmed all suspicions for it took a running leap at a four-foot brick wall and jumped right over it into the road. It then started on its mad career, charging through the streets until it reached the Sepoy Lines. Needless to say, the Superintendent and assistants of the Abattoirs were soon in pursuit. Before they came up, however, the beast had got into a police station compound near by, making the task of rounding it up appear easy, but on the approach of the search party it jumped the railings and rushed wildly into the grounds of the General Hospital. From there, luckily enough, it wended its way towards the Lunatic Asylum, where several attempts were made to catch the animal, but it kept its pursuers at bay by a series of ferocious charges. By one o'clock it was careering gaily towards Mount Faber, from whence it found its way into Havelock Road by some means or other, scattering the crowd in all directions on its way. The pursuing party were soon on its track again, only to find that the bull was in possession of Alexandra Road. Continuing its frantic career, the animal directed its way to Tanglin and on to Bukit Timah. Being then somewhat exhausted it sought refuge in a plantation; where the efforts of the search party were rewarded with success. Secured by ropes round its horns, neck, and through the nose, it was led away, but again became unmanageable, necessitating another bullock being lashed to it to keep it calm. All went well until the first bullock cart was met. At this the beast made a furious rush. Little damage was done, fortunately, and no person was hurt. The bull was brought safely back to the Abattoirs about six o'clock, after a seven hours' wild escapade.

TELEGRAM.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

AN EXTRAORDINARY CONFLICT.

CHINESE AND JAPANESE IN COLLISION.

AFFAIR CHECKED.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 16th June, 11 a.m.

A force of two thousand Chinese cavalry came into collision with a party of Japanese sutlers in North Chungtu.

The Chinese horsemen subsequently attempted to surround the office of the Japanese Military Administration.

Thanks to prompt measures taken the extraordinary affair has been timely checked.

No reason is yet assigned for the regrettable conflict.

ENGINEERS AT VARIANCE.

At the Magistracy, at noon, to-day, the third engineer (H. C. Barker), s.s. *Appalachee*, summoned the chief engineer (Thomson) of the same ship with assault on the 14th instant.

Mr. F. H. Deacon, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, who defended, mentioned that there was also a cross-summons.

Mr. Gompertz—Is there no chance of settling this case?

Mr. Deacon—I don't think, your Worship.

Complainant—If the defendant, who is my chief, will acknowledge what he did, I am willing to withdraw.

Mr. Gompertz—An apology?

Mr. Deacon—We are not going to *low-tow* to the complainant, your Worship.

Mr. Gompertz—I don't think he wants that.

Mr. Deacon—If complainant will step outside and speak to the captain, I think we can come to some satisfactory conclusion.

After a short interval, Mr. Deacon said that the complainant was willing to withdraw the charge, as he was leaving the ship.

Mr. Gompertz—That's all right. It will save dirty linen being washed here.

The charge was accordingly withdrawn, and the defendant discharged.

WILY AMERICAN SAILOR.

EXCITING TIMES IN THE HARBOUR.

"If I weren't a good hand with the 'mits' and a rattling good swimmer I guess I would have been murdered last night," said Richard Maximilian, fireman, U.S.S. *Barry*, when arrested. Last evening, the fireman engaged a sampan to return to his ship. It was said that the *Barry* had left port and as it could not be found, the fireman told the sampan people to row him to Shanghai, but the sampan was taken to the nearest wharf. When the sampan got alongside the wharf the fireman refused to leave the boat and on the sampanman calling the police the fireman got obstreperous. A row and a fight quickly followed each other in which the fireman had to keep off two women and a man. The fireman dealt out black-eyes right and left, and in the struggle both women were pitched into the sea. The women climbed on board the boat again and as the noise attracted a crowd on the water-front—among them being a policeman—Richard was alleged to have jumped into the water, saying afterwards that he was thrown in. On gaining *terra firma* once more the fireman was taken in charge and appeared at the Police Court this morning to answer a charge of assaulting the two sampan women. The trio from the sampan came into Court with all sorts of bruises about their faces to prosecute the defendant.

Defendant said that when he engaged the sampan last night he was intoxicated. The *Barry* was not supposed to leave the harbour until eight o'clock, and the sampan people—who knew No. 8 buoy perfectly well—took him the wrong way. Suddenly the sampanman "tapped" defendant on the head and as he surmised there was robbery contemplated he made for the man. While he was thus engaged he saw one of the women coming towards him with a chopper, so he let "fly" at her, too. Even now he felt sore about the head and jaw.

Defendant was fined \$10 on each charge, and to give each woman \$2 as compensation.

SHIPPING AND MAILS.

MAILS DUE.

Indian (*Suitang*) 18th inst.
American (*Manchuria*) 23rd inst.
Canadian (*Montague*) 27th inst.
Indian (*Luzang*) 29th inst.
Canadian (*Empress of Japan*) 3rd prox.

The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s s.s. *Sardina* left Singapore for this port on 15th inst., at 4 p.m.
The "Ben" Line s.s. *Benary*, from Antwerp and London, left Singapore yesterday, for this port.

The I. C. S. N. Co.'s s.s. *Luzang* left Calcutta for this port via the Straits on 13th inst., and may be expected here on 29th inst.

The Imperial German Mail s.s. *Freunin* left Shanghai via Foochow on 16th inst., at 3 a.m., and may be expected here on 19th inst.
The M. M. Co.'s s.s. *Tonkin* from Manilla on 17th ult., left Colombo on 15th inst., at 6 p.m., via ports for Hongkong, and is due here on 27th inst.

TELEGRAMS.

[Ruler's.]

Austria-Hungary.

LONDON, 14th June.

Count Goluchowski, replying to attacks on the Triple Alliance, said that the alliance was only operative in the event of any ally being attacked on two sides. He denied that Austria contemplated a campaign of expansion in the Balkans.

Parliament.

It is expected that the House of Commons will finish with the Education Bill by the 20th July, and rise on the 3rd August, and that the Autumn session will begin at the end of October.

British Officers Attacked in Egypt.

Five British officers, pigeon shooting near Tanta, in Egypt, were surrounded by the villagers, deprived of their guns and beaten with bludgeons.

Captain Bull of the 6th Dragoon Guards has died of the wounds received, Captain Pine Coffin of the Mounted Infantry has a broken arm, and Lieut. Smithwick of the Dublin Fusiliers is badly hurt.

Explosion on a Liner.

An explosion occurred on board the liner *Haverford* on a voyage from New York to Liverpool, by which 11 people were killed and 40 injured.

The explosion is attributed to the fumes from a consignment of naphtha.

The *Haverford* has arrived at Liverpool.

Greece and Roumania.

The relations between Greece and Roumania have been finally broken off.

Russia protects the Greeks in Roumania.

BREACH OF POSTAL REGULATIONS.

DEFENDANT CONVICTED.

A Chinaman named Pung Yung, residing at No. 83, Hillier Street, was placed before Mr. Compst, at the Police Court to-day, in answer to two charges. It was alleged defendant was collecting and delivering mail matter in this Colony without the consent of the Postmaster-General, and also with infringing the exclusive privilege of the Postmaster-General by collecting and delivering mail matter in the Colony, without the same passing through the Post Office, on the 15th instant.

Mr. E. C. Lewis, of the General Post Office, prosecuted.

The defendant pleaded guilty to both charges. Mr. Lewis said there are several licensed houses in the Colony who are permitted to collect and deliver mail matter. The defendant was not one of these. Twenty-one letters, all from Canton, were found on defendant when arrested.

Mr. Lewis suggested that defendant be fined \$50 on each charge.

His Worship contended that both charges practically amounted to one, only they were differently worded. The defendant would pay a fine of \$25, or six weeks' hard labour.

THE JAPANESE NAVY.

TREMENDOUS TOTAL OF TONNAGE.

POPULARITY OF THE SERVICE.

In reference to the strength of the Japanese Navy, vernacular contemporaries observe that the Russian ships raised in the harbour of Port Arthur by the Japanese authorities are the four battleships *Rurik*, *Peresvet*, *Pobeda* and *Pollava*, the armoured cruiser *Hayan*, the cruiser *Pallada*, two gunboats, a destroyer, and seven other steamers, the warships representing an aggregate tonnage of 64,669. The Japanese Navy lost in the war two battleships, the *Hatsuse* and *Yashima*; four cruisers, the *Takasago*, *Yoshino*, *Suyari*, and *Atsuta*; four gunboats, the *Itetsu*, *Atago*, *Oshima*, and *Kaimon*; and the destroyers *Akatsuki* and *Hayate*, representing a total tonnage of 46,049. In addition to the warships raised in Port Arthur, two battleships, the *Orel* and *Nicolai*; two armoured coast defence ships, the *Semarin* and *Admiral Apraxine*; and the destroyer *Vladiv* were captured in the battle of the Japan Sea, while the cruiser *Varyag* was raised at Chemulpo and the destroyer *Reishimaru* was captured at Chefoo. The Japanese Navy has gained an aggregate of about 57,000 tons. When the two battleships *Katori* and *Kajima*, built in England, the two battleships *Aki* and *Satsuma*, now in the course of construction in Japan, the four armoured cruisers *Tsukuba*, *Hama*, *Kurama* and *Ibuki*; the three dispatch-boats *Mogami*, *Toni* and *Yodo*, now being built; the *Shiratsuyu*, *Yugure*, *Wakaba* just built; the twenty-one other destroyers, included in the Estimates; and the *Mikazuki* and eight other destroyers to be launched before the end of this month, are added, the total tonnage of the Japanese Navy (at the end of this year) will be over 500,000 tons, exclusive of the *Mikasa*, sunk at Suifu.

The battleship *Tango* (late *Pollava*) which is under repair, was built in 1893, and is now getting old. Various defects have been observed in her hull, and she can no longer be used on active service with the main force. The cruiser *Soya* (late *Varyag*) was built at Philadelphia, only seven years ago; her damages are heavy, but upon the completion of repairs, she will be a powerful and fast cruiser. It is necessary, say the vernacular journals, for the Japanese Navy to build 20,000 tons of new ships annually to maintain the present force of the fleet.

The naval service is increasing in popularity in Japan. Last year 200 boys were admitted into the Imperial Naval College at Etchima, while 2,500 candidates applied for admittance. This year 180 boys were admitted, and for these vacancies 3,000 candidates presented themselves. Mr. Oyama Takashi, son of Marshal Marquis Oyama, and Mr. Yamamoto Kiyoshi, son of Admiral Baron Yamamoto, ex-Minister for the Navy, are at present among the students in the college.—*Japan Chronicle*.

HONGKONG GARDENS.

REPORT FOR 1905.

From the interesting report of Mr. S. T. Dunn, Superintendent, Botanical and Afforestation Department, we make the following extracts:—

BOTANICAL GARDENS.

The year was, comparatively speaking, free from serious damage done by typhoons. A few trees were blown down and a number of rose bushes destroyed, which have now been replaced. During the typhoon season much time was taken up by the staff in making preparations to minimise damage as much as possible. Often the work, such as the moving of pot plants into sheltered positions, proved unnecessary, but it is more economical to move them ten times than to leave them once and have them blown to pieces. It is hoped, however, that when the office is connected with the telephone system a lot of this work will be unnecessary.

Minor repairs have been done to both sand and concrete walks. Many of the bamboos forming the roofs of the plant-houses had to be renewed. These were originally fixed from six to eight years ago. The plant-houses in the pot nursery underwent considerable repairs, the woodwork in many places having become rotten.

A great feature at the fountain last summer was the splendid show of *Eichhornia speciosa* when in flower. This plant was only introduced 3 years ago by Lady Blake and it is now to be found in gardens all over the Colony. An interesting conifer in the New Garden has recently flowered for the first time. This is *Podocarpus neriifolia*, the seed of which was sown December, 1900, having been presented to the gardens by Messrs. J. Veitch & Sons' collector, who found it in Yunnan. The tree is now about 8 feet high. Other young trees raised from the same seed and planted in Mountain Lodge grounds have long since been blown to pieces. One of the most interesting flowering trees in the gardens is an unnamed *Bauhinia* growing near the deer pen in the New Garden. The original tree from which it sprang is still growing on the hillside at Pokfulam close to the remains of an old house, by the tenants of which it had presumably been introduced from abroad. So far as we have been able to ascertain it is unmatched in the New Garden. It comes into flower in September and remains in good condition for nearly five months.

In September bulbs of *Allium neapolitanum* were received from Mr. W. H. Wallace, Amoy, some of which were planted in pots in the gardens and the remainder in the rocky at Mountain Lodge. A few of those at the Peak flowered splendidly, but those down below absolutely refused to grow. At Amoy these and many other bulbs do remarkably well, but from some cause or other which is difficult to fathom, it is impossible to grow them in Hongkong.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE GROUNDS.

The grounds, including the walks, have been kept up to their usual condition. Towards the end of the year the tennis lawn was attacked by caterpillars which were kept in check by an application of Jeyes' Fluid and water in the proportion of one of the former to ninety of the latter. In the small compound behind the stables, which was formerly used for growing decorative plants, the cooler quarters have been erected, thus necessitating the removal of the plants elsewhere.

MOUNTAIN LODGE GROUNDS.

The shrubberies were overhauled and planted up as required. These always want a lot of attention in the spring of the year owing to the great damage done by wind even in the most favourable summers. In the August typhoon the creeper covering the large retaining wall was completely blown down, thus exposing the whole of the unsightly masonry. Wires fixed to iron stays have been put up so that it is held in position, and it is hoped that these animals come into the cemetery to feed on the tender plants growing there. The roofs and stages of the plant-houses, which had become decayed, have been renewed by the Public Works Department. The paths, which are used for storing soil and for raising plants from seed, have been re-built.

BLAKE GARDEN.

A few more trees, shrubs and creepers were planted in the spring. Most of the plants and trees put in 1904 have grown well. A summer-house, subscribed for by a few of the Chinese residents in the neighbourhood, has been erected on the mound at the north-west corner of the garden. The garden appears to be more and more appreciated by the Chinese.

PEAK GARDEN.

The vote of \$700 allowed for the formation of this small garden was expended during the year but the ground has not been fully yet, as the work was not sufficiently advanced at the end of the rainy season to permit of this being done. A pump has been fixed to the well in the garden by the Public Works Department. This will permit of the well being covered over so that there will be no danger of children falling in, and at the same time the water will be available for the garden.

SOKUNTO NURSERY.

As the Nursery is unfenced, wild deer, as in the Protestant Cemetery, did a lot of damage to the seedlings; pigs were also a source of trouble. A portion was enclosed with a wire-netting fence, 3 feet high, but this was only partially effective in keeping the deer out as they occasionally jumped over it. Small lamps, however, fixed so that they would sway in the wind during the night, had very satisfactory results.

ALBANY NURSERY.

The whole of the Albany Nursery is gradually being brought into use as funds permit. A part of it is occupied by decorative plants, the stock of which has had to be largely increased owing to the frequency with which they are now required for various decorative purposes. Carrying the plants to and from the places where they are being used, insufficient water whilst they are in the rooms and the frequent breakage of pots causing damage to the roots and necessitating re-potting, render it necessary to keep many more plants than are actually required at any one time. A number of trees and economic plants have been put in another part of this nursery.

WEST END PARK.

A number of men have been employed at various times throughout the year in cutting grass, pulling up weeds and keeping the place generally in a fair condition.

GOVERNMENT OFFICES GROUNDS.

These have been kept in good order throughout the year. In continuation of the previous year's work many more plants than were covered with "blue grass".

ROADSIDE ROCKERIES.

The numerous rockeries in various parts of the town have received attention from time to time. In the Glenelyr rockeries a lot of replanting was done in the spring.

THE BOTANY OF FOKIEN.

EXPEDITION TO THE PROVINCE.

From the report on the Botanical and Afforestation Department for last year, we learn that at the end of April a well-equipped expedition was sent by the Government in charge of the Superintendent to investigate the botanical resources of the Province of Fokien. Four trained Chinese collectors were taken. Fouchow was reached on the 25th of April and a houseboat taken at once for the exploration of the more easily navigable parts of the Yuen Fu and Min Rivers. As the Hongkong Herbarium was almost devoid of specimens from Fokien and as our knowledge of the flora of that province is very meagre, it was necessary to collect specimens of every species, even down to the weeds of the cultivated fields. This collecting was at once begun on the plains and foothills of the ranges surrounding Fouchow, and in 3 days about 300 species were collected. The houseboat formed a convenient base for drying and sorting the specimens. On the 29th of April the first rapid was reached, about 35 miles up the Yuen Fu. There is a good deal of virgin forest above 700 feet on the mountains which at this point begin to close in on the river. The forest trees were seen as they surrounded the Monastery of Fong Kong Tse. The enormous trees of Liquidambar, Maple, Oak and Pine which grew there sheltered a rich flora, and number of additional species were collected on the damp rocks and along the mossy rivulets. On the 30th a return was commenced downstream and Fouchow was reached again on May 2nd. The chief cultivations on the banks of the Yuen Fu are rice, water plum (*Myrica rubra*), opium, wheat, oats, paddy and rape. In the steep gorges bamboo is extensively grown. Fuel-woods were made on the cultivation of various species of trees, especially on the extraordinarily ingenious methods of transporting the bamboos from the mountains.

A start was made on May 2nd up the Min River, and by the 7th Shui Kan, the highest point navigable for houseboats, was reached. The flora of the banks and neighbouring hills though very beautiful presented little that was new. Tea-cultivation was seen for the first time covering the dry hills at Shui Kan. As an experiment is being made with a view to introducing the industry into the New Territory, the conditions were carefully noted. A transfer had now to be made to a rapid and interesting though slow progress was made up the almost continuous series of rapids to Yenching. About 200 species from the banks of the Min were added to the 500 collected on the Yuen Fu, and the opportunity was taken of sorting and writing a key to the species as a guide to further collecting.

Yenching lies at the junction of the Kienning River with the Min nearly in the centre of the Province and is cut off from the north by a high range of mountains. These mountains are intersected by numerous forest-clad valleys, and it was determined to make a thorough exploration of one of these and of the summits with one collector, sending two further up the Min and leaving one at Yenching to dry the collections. The important work of drying the plants already collected and of those now constantly sent down from the mountains was greatly facilitated by the kindness of some Missionaries in Yenching who lent a room for the purpose. The Superintendent with one collector stayed at the small Chinese village of Huong Kang, about 12 miles from the town, and made an exhaustive collection of the flora of the romantic gorge in which was situated as well as of the grassy downs at the summit, with wood-oil and paper are made at this village and the excellent opportunity of obtaining full details of their manufacture was not neglected. Several points which had been obscure or misunderstood in these industries were fortunately able to be cleared up. A full description of these and other interesting results of the expedition are given below. Huong Kang was left and a return made to Yenching after a stay of three weeks. The number of additional species collected there was about 600.

A few days were spent in collecting at Yenching while for the return of the two collectors from the Upper Min. Upon their return a rapid boat was secured and the collections taken back with all possible speed to Fouchow and Hongkong which was reached on the 24th of June.

WOOD-OIL.

Wood-oil is abundantly produced in the Province of Fokien and is one of the chief products brought down the Min from the western part of the Province. At Huong Kang, near Yenching, there is a large plantation of wood-oil trees, and as three weeks were spent there during the rainy season, it was an opportunity as much as possible to the industry. The trees were of two kinds locally known as Hua Tung (花桐) and Guong Tung (光桐). The names refer to the distinguishing character of the fruit which is sculptured in the first, smooth in the second. The trees were in flower and were easily recognised as *Alseodaphne cordata* and another species of the same genus which has been in cultivation in the Hongkong Botanic Gardens for many years but has not yet received a name. I understand from Mr. Hemley, Keeper of the Herbarium, that it is undescribed and that he has it in hand at Kew. The Hua Tung (*Alseodaphne cordata*) is the most valued because all the flowers of the majority of trees produce fruits, from which the oil is made, while in the second kind a few flowers only in which cluster are perfect, quite 80 per cent. being male flowers. Why this kind is planted at all I was unable to discover. The trees are raised from seed and planted out when about three years old. They arrive at bearing in 5 or 6 years. The nuts are gathered when ripe, pounded up and placed in the usual Chinese oil presses. The pressure is applied by wedges, and the oil is collected and taken to market in a crude state.

It does not appear to have been suspected before that wood-oil was a mixture of the products of two species. A sample of seeds of the new Guong Tung have been secured for trial at the Imperial Institute, and it they yield oil superior in quality to the wood-oil of commerce the tree will be in the New Territory.

BAMBOO PAPER.

This is the usual paper used by the Chinese for wrapping up parcels and is produced and sold in very large quantities in many parts of Southern China. The manufacture was investigated at Huong Kang where a flourishing paper mill exists. The bamboo called Ma Deuk (馬楸) is the variety used. This is a bamboo (*Phyllostachys*, sp.) 20-30 ft. high, having a downy stem when young. It is cut into convenient lengths and laid in concrete tanks of water for about 4 months. After that period the material is carefully removed by hand as it becomes ready, and is pulped in a water mill, which are used for all kinds of ponding, consisting of an overhead wheel about 10 feet in diameter. The axle carries a wooden cam which alternately raises and releases the pulper. The pulp is subsequently taken into the factory as a fibrous mass, the fragments being about 1 inch long. They are there mixed with water, forming a thin muddy

liquid. The water contains a blinding ingredient or size made from the leaves of various plants, among which were an *Actinidia*, a *Holly*, a species of *Lauraceae*, and a *Schlandra*. From this liquid the fibre is removed in thin films on a delicate tray of bamboo threads supported on a bamboo frame. Each film is a sheet of paper and only needs to be dried, first on a hot surface, and then in a strong lever press to be ready for market.

CHINA FIR.

The China Fir (*Cunninghamia sinensis*) may be called *par excellence* the timber tree of China, for in a great part of the Empire boats, houses, furniture and agricultural machines are made of it. The large quantities grown in Fokien in former times have doubtless contributed to the prosperity of Fouchow. The conditions of cultivation were investigated at Huong Kang near Yenching in that Province. It is called locally Sau Tsoi (杉材). Trees are grown from cuttings taken from branches 2 years old or less. These are planted in rows, 12 feet apart, from the beginning of February to the equinox. The plantations are cleaned two or three times a year while the trees are young and are protected by fire barriers. The felled timber is extracted down made ways to the foot of the mountains and then carried to the river and made into large rafts. The timber is in demand for construction even in Hongkong although we are plentifully supplied with *Pinus massoniana*, because it is not subject to the attacks of white ants as is the latter species.

COMMERCIAL.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Reviewing the share business for the week Messrs. E. S. H. Moore & Co. write on the 15th inst. that the share business has been quiet during the past week and our market has shown no signs of activity than for some time past.

Banks.—Transactions have taken place in Hongkong & Shanghai Banks at \$810 closing steadily with further inquiries at \$815. Nationals are wanted at \$38.

Marine Insurances.—Cautions are on offer at \$355 without finding buyers; while sales are reported of North China at \$15.85 and Yangtze at \$175. Unions have improved and are in demand at \$810.

Fire Insurances.—China Fires continue quiet at \$810. Hongkong Fire firm with quiet at \$305 and can probably be placed at \$307.

Shipping.—China and Manilla are quoted at \$200 and Douglases at \$40. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats have changed hands at \$25, and there are now further buyers for shares at \$150. Sales have been effected of Indo-China at rising rates from \$75 closing fairly steady at \$78. A few Shanghai Tugs were sold at \$15.63, the Preference shares being demanded at \$15.51, while Taku Tugs have advanced to \$17.45, at which rate business has been done. Star Ferries are unchanged.

Refineries.—China Sugars have declined to \$160, but there are buyers at this rate. Lurons have depreciated to \$30 without sales. A fair business is reported in Penang Sugars at various rates up to \$15.107, cash and equivalent rates forward.

Mining.—Chinese Engineerings have hardened and shares are in request at \$15.90. Orientals are nominally quoted at Gold \$14. Ruins can be negotiated at \$3.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks are easier and are probable at \$157.4. Knowlton Wharfs have been booked at \$107 closing week at \$103. Shanghai Ha Docks have been dealt in to some extent at \$11.14, and Hongkong Wharfs have been disposed of at \$15.23.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Shires are offering of Hongkong Lands at \$110 without receiving attention. Shanghai Lands have been placed at \$11.13. There are sellers of Hongkong Hotels at \$130. Humphreys Estates are to be had at \$114. There is no business to report in other stocks under this heading.

Cotton Mills.—Only a small business has been put through. Ewos have weakened after sales at \$12.70 and are now offering at this rate. Soey Chees are stronger and are inquired for \$13.310. There are sellers for other stocks under this heading as follows:—Hongkong Cottons \$14, Internationals \$15.63, and Luon Kung Mows \$15.74.

Miscellaneous.—Green Island Cements have receded to \$28 and can be had at this rate. China Providents remain quoted at \$9, and Dairy Farms at \$16. Hongkong Electricities fetched \$151, at the early part of the week, but are now quiet at \$15. Langkats have remained very steady and sales have taken place at \$15.25, and are now quoted at \$15.27, the dividend of 1s. 7d. paid to-day. Watsons have sellers at \$134 and probable buyers at \$13.

YARN MARKET.

In their report dated 15th instant, Messrs. Phirozsha B. Petit and Co. write:—Beginning with the same doleful tone, the allotted span bids fair to present a cheerful closing scene, a lifeless beginning and a reviving end. As we go to press, our market for yarn is somewhat cheering up, prices have advanced by about a dollar, and booking is observed to be pretty brisk. How far this is going to be maintained, if not further, would be a question difficult to answer off hand, as by and by so ominous has been our beginning. When misfortunes come, they come in battalions. Bombay acted the stepmother to Hongkong and Shanghai and the North and established a dead stagnation almost all over China; the effects of which have been disastrous and far-reaching. There have been local contributory causes as well. Chinese Banks have curtailed their accommodations to Chinese merchants; the latter are chokel of dearly bought purchases; the consumer refuses to come to the aid of the dealer, and financial embarrassment is the only natural result to be feared. Last week a heavy rain failure in Hongkong simply added to the difficulties of the situation, and many commodities and their surpluses will have to bear the brunt. The "dead" firm was dealing largely in cotton, yarn, piece-goods, and opium, and the failure of the firm will bring back into the market a heavy lot of purchases to be resold on account of the compradors and their surpluses, and that cannot but have a very prejudicial effect on our market. If Hongkong and/or Shanghai and the North report any further crashes, no one would be surprised, though that is a consummation devoutly to be wished for. But we are just now moving in times which admit of all sorts of prognostications.

As it were not sufficient, a sister trade of the Indian yarn business is seriously threatened, threatened with extinction. If commerce was ever susceptible to the influences of political and pseudo-political vortexes in one country more than another, it was in China. Missionaries and political philanthropists (though there may be a number that might almost be called misanthropes) have been persistently dining into the ears of the British Government of England and India that by the opium "traffic" they were poisoning China and taking away her gold. For these years past these agitators (well meaning to be sure) were found to be crying in the wilderness, and after all they have succeeded, they have captured the British House of Commons and have made a convert of it and a resolution, in all the solemnity of the Commons, has just been passed

"restricting" the Indian opium trade in China, and Mr. Montey is prepared to go all the length of doing it "at any sacrifice to England or India." Opium Merchants are heard to exclaim: "We hear the death-knell tolling."

Reports from Shanghai, and the Northern Markets show little or no improvement. Prices there ruled steady and a moderate business transpired.

The Market closes steadily at quotations. No. 20.—At the beginning sales were effected at a decline of \$1, but latterly prices again revived.

No. 16.—A moderate business transpired in selected threads at a decline of one dollar on last mail's prices.

No. 12.—Selected threads found buyers at very low rates.

No. 10.—Cheap prices induced a good business, and importers freely met dealers at prices asked by them.

No. 8.—One thread was sold at last prices.

No. 6.—Only one thread fetched last rates. Sales during the past fortnight—25 bales of No. 6; 25 bales of No. 8; 237 bales of No. 10; 125 bales of No. 12; 300 bales of No. 16; and 1,575 bales of No. 20; in all about 4,735 bales.

Arrivals.—Per Steamers *Kulsang* and *Lightning* (from Calcutta), and *Capri*, *Tosa Maru*, *Dombay Maru* and *Delta* (from Bombay) about 12,000 bales for this port and about 14,000 bales for Shanghai.

Shipments.—To Shanghai and the Northern Ports about 4,500 bales.

Unsold Stock.—Estimated at about 88,000 bales.

Uncleared Stock.—Estimated at about 47,000 bales.

Cotton.—Sales of about 85 packages at \$33 per picul.

Local Yarn.—Sales of about 299 bales of No. 10, at \$90.

Japanese Yarn.—Nothing doing.

Exchange.—We quote, to-day, as under:—

India T. T. at Rs. 1561 per cent.

Demand " " 1561

London T. T. " Sh. 21 1/16d.—5

Demand " " 21 1/16d.—5

Shanghai " " Tls. 25.—500.

Silver " " 29 11/16d. per oz.

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

Selling.

London—Bank T.T. 2/1 1/16

Do. demand 2/1 1/16

Do. 4 months' sight 2/1 1/16

France—Bank T.T. 2/3

America—Bank T.T. 2/3

Germany—Bank T.T. 2/3

India T.T. 2/3

Do. demand 2/3

Shanghai—Bank T.T. 2/3

Singapore T.T. 2/3

Japan—Bank T.T. 2/3

Java—Bank T.T. 2/3

Buying.

4 months' sight L/C. 2/1 1/16

6 months' sight L/C. 2/1 1/16

30 days' sight San Francisco & New York 2/1 1/16

1 month's sight do. 2/1 1/16

30 days' sight Sydney and Melbourne 2/1 1/16

4 months' sight France 2/3

6 months' sight do. 2/3

4 months' sight Germany 2/3

Bar Silver 29 9/16

Bank of England rate 4 5/8

Sovereigns 9 5/8

OPUM QUOTATIONS.

To-day's quotations are as follows:—

Malwa New @ 900/920

" Old @ 940/1,000

" Oldest @ —

Patna New @ 865

" Old @ 840

Benares New @ 802 1/2

" Old @ 800

Persian (Paper) @ —

Per chest

Patna New @ 865

Mails.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES
FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

STEAM FOR SAIGON,
SINGAPORE, BATAVIA,
COLOMBO, CALCUTTA,
BOMBAY, ADEN, DJIBOUTI,
EGYPT, MARSEILLES,
LONDON, HAVRE, BORDEAUX, MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEA PORTS.

The S.S. "OCEANIE".

Captain Couet, will be despatched for MARSEILLES on TUESDAY, the 16th June, at 1 P.M.

This Steamer connects at Colombo with the Australian line a.s. Sydney bound for Marseilles via Bombay and Aden.

Passage tickets and through Bills of Lading issued for above ports.

Cargo also booked for principal places in Europe.

Next sailings will be as follows:—

S.S. TOURANE 10th July.

S.S. TONKIN 24th July.

S.S. ARMAND BEHC 7th August.

S.S. ERNEST SIMONS 21st August.

S.S. POLYNESIE 4th September.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.

Hongkong, 13th June, 1906.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL
STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR
STRAITS, Ceylon, AUSTRALIA,
EGYPT AND LONDON.

(Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA,
PERSIAN GULF, CONTINENTAL AMERICA
and SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.)

THE Steamship

"ARCADIA,"

Captain W. W. Cooke, R.N.R., carrying the
Majesty's Vails, will be despatched from this
for MARSEILLES and LONDON DIRECT

on SATURDAY, the 30th June, at Noon,
taking Passengers and Cargo for the above
Ports.

Parcels will be received at this Office until
5 p.m. the day before sailing. This Contents and
Value of all Packages are required.

For further Particulars, apply to

E. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 16th June, 1906.

Intimations.

CUTLER, PALMER & CO.

WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

LONDON, INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA.

ESTABLISHED 1815.

BRANDY

Per Case.
\$22.50

WHISKY, FINE MALT

JOHN WALKER & SONS' OLD HIGHLAND

C. P. & CO'S SPECIAL BLEND

PORT WINE, INVALIDS

DOURO

SHERRY, AMOROSO

LA TORRE

BENEDICTINE, D.O.M.

THE ABOVE EXCLUSIVELY SHIPPED TO

SIEMSEN & CO.,

HONGKONG AGENTS.

Hongkong, 15th November, 1905.

ACHEE & CO.

ESTABLISHED 1859.

FURNITURE,

DEPOT

GENERAL HOUSEHOLD

FOR

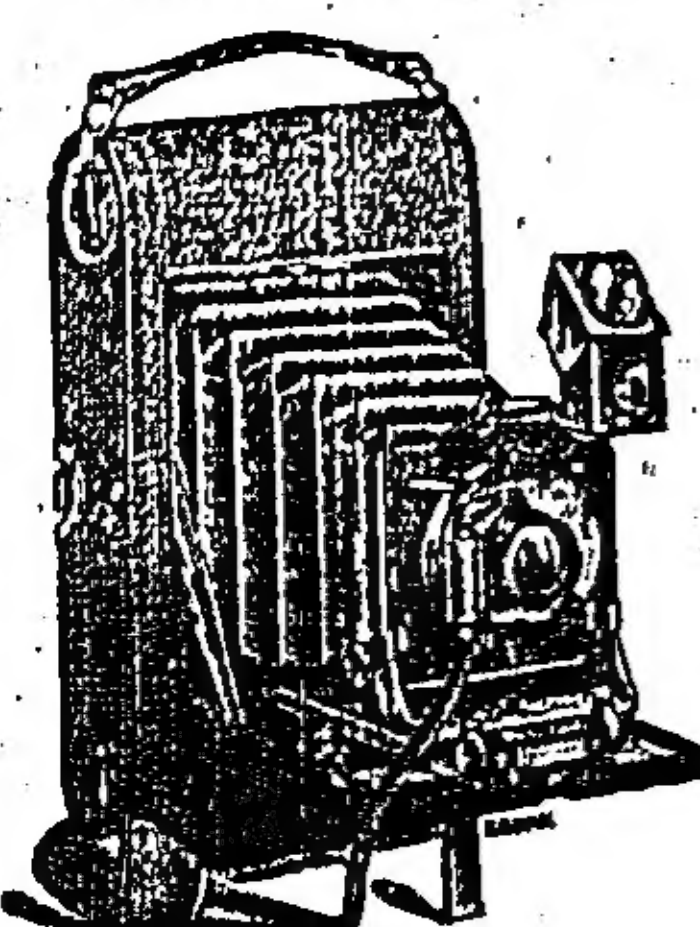
EASTMAN'S

REQUISITES.

KODAKS, FILMS,

AND

ACCESSORIES.



AMATEUR WORK RECEIVES PROMPT AND CAREFUL ATTENTION.
Hongkong, 16th May, 1906.

SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Messrs. E. S. KADOORIE & Co. Corrected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 5.

Supplied by Messrs. R. S. KADDOCK & CO.									
STOCKS.	NO. OF SHARES.	VALUE.	PAID UP.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT.		LAST DIVIDEND.	APPROXIMATE RETURN AT PRESENT QUOTATION.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS.	
				RESERVE.	AT WORKING ACCOUNT.				
BANKS.									
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	80,000	\$125	\$125	\$1,000,000 \$500,000 \$500,000	\$1,699,777	{ £1 15/- div. and £1 bonus @ ex. 2/09/16 } =\$26.87 for 2nd half-year 1905	5 1/2 %	{ \$815 buyers London 1905	
National Bank of China, Limited	99,925	£7	£5	{ \$1,000,000 Tls. 100,000 Tls. 50,000 }	\$74,099	\$2 (London 3/6) for 1905 .....	...	\$38
MARINE INSURANCES.									
Canton Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	\$250	\$30	{ \$1,000,000 \$147,895 }	\$211,540	\$20 for 1904	5 1/2 %	\$355 sellers	
North China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	£15	£5	{ £100,000 Tls. 100,000 Tls. 50,000 }	Tls. 302,053	Interim div. of 7/5 @ ex 3/10 15/16 Tls. 2.62 on account 1905	5 1/2 %	Tls. 85 sales	
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	10,000	\$250	\$100	{ \$2,000,000 \$400,000 \$331,131 \$1,533,868 \$609,279 \$800,000 \$101,778 \$15,127 \$1,000,000 \$129,488 \$2,616 }	\$2,792,271	Interim div. of \$39 for 1905	4 1/2 %	\$810	
Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited	8,000	\$100	100	{ \$1,000,000 \$101,778 \$15,127 \$1,000,000 \$129,488 \$2,616 }	\$508,334	\$12 and \$3 special dividend for 1904	8 1/2 %	\$175	
FIRE INSURANCES.									
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	20,000	\$100	\$10	{ \$20,000 \$2,616 }	\$344,098	\$6 for 1904	7 %	\$85	
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	\$250	\$30	{ \$800,000 \$101,778 \$15,127 \$1,000,000 \$129,488 \$2,616 }	\$422,618	\$25 for 1904	8 %	\$305 buyers	
SHIPPING.									
China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	\$25	100	{ \$50,000 \$2,616 \$88,941 }	\$6,563	\$14 for 1905	7 1/2 %	\$204	
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	\$50	\$30	{ \$250,000 \$600,000 \$154,331 \$120,000 \$241,150 \$3,999 }	Nil.	\$34 for year ended 30.6.1905	8 1/2 %	\$40	
Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$15	\$15	{ \$150,000 \$2,616 }	\$4,435	\$1 for 2nd half-year making \$2 for 1905	7 1/2 %	\$154 buyers	
Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited	60,000	£10	£10	{ £60,000 Tls. 20,000 Tls. 20,000 }	Tls. 23,156	12/- @ 1/10 = \$6.23.51 for 1904	8 %	\$78	
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	200,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 20,000 £400,000 £40,000 }	Tls. 23,156	{ Final Tls. 3 making Tls. 5 for 1905 Final Tls. 12 making Tls. 34 for 1905 }	8 %	Tls. 63 sales	
"Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Limited	2,000,000	£1	£1	{ £2,000,000 £40,000 £4,000 }	£107,815	17/- (Coupon No. 6) for 1905	7 %	Tls. 51 buyers	
"Star" Ferry Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$5	{ Tls. 50,000 Tls. 2,616 }	\$218	{ \$1.50 \$0.75 } for year ending 30.4.1906	{ 5 1/2 % 3 1/2 % }	{ \$30 \$21 }	
Taku Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	10,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 50,000 Tls. 350,479 Tls. 48,000 Tls. 81,200 }	Tls. 13,913	Final of Tls. 2 making Tls. 4 for 1905	9 %	Tls. 45 sales	
REFINERIES.									
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	20,000	\$100	100	{ \$850,000 \$450,000 \$86,129 }	\$40,914	Final of \$15 making \$25 for 1905	15 1/2 %	\$160 buyers	
Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited	7,000	\$100	100	{ none Tls. 100,000 }	Dr. \$132,588	\$3 for 1897 .....	...	\$20 sellers
Perak Sugar Cultivation Company, Limited	7,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 100,000 Tls. 100,000 }	Tls. 3,723	Tls. 24 for year ending 30.9.04 .....	...	Tls. 1074 sellers
MINING.									
Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ltd.	1,000,000	£1	£1	{ £80,000 £26,011 none }	£13,355	{ 1/- (No. 6) interim div. for 12 months ending 28.2.06 }	7 %	Tls. 9.90 buyers	
Oriental Consolidated Mining Company, Limited	500,000	G. \$10	G. \$10	{ none G. \$90,050 }	G. \$90,050	Final of 50 cents making G. \$1 for 1905	7 %	G. \$14	
Raub Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited	50,000	£1	£1	{ £4,873 none }	Dr. £8,745	No. 12 of 1/- = 48 cents .....	...	\$3 buyers
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.									
Fenwick (Geo.) & Co., Limited	18,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$70,000 \$550,000 \$65,160 \$20,000 }	\$8,915	\$2 for 1905	9 %	\$22	
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.	40,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$50,000 \$65,160 \$20,000 }	\$20,040	Final of \$34 making \$6 for 1905	5 1/2 %	\$103	
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ltd.	10,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$49,500 \$388,000 \$1,000,000 }	\$564,232	\$6 for second half-year making \$12 for 1905	7 1/2 %	\$1574 sellers	
New Amoy Dock Company, Limited	10,000	\$64	\$64	{ \$388,000 Tls. 1,000,000 }	\$2,221	\$1 for 1905	5 1/2 %	\$18	
Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd.	15,700	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 1,000,000 Tls. 487,210 }	Tls. 34,924	Interim of Tls. 4 for year 1905/6	10 1/2 %	Tls. 114 sales	
Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf Company, Limited	32,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 3,200,000 Tls. 57,065 }	Tls. 57,065	Final of Tls. 8 making Tls. 14 for 1905	6 1/2 %	Tls. 225 sales	
Yangtze Wharf and Godown Company, Limited	2,500	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 30,000 Tls. 30,000 }	Tls. 5,668	Tls. 18 for 1905	8 1/2 %	Tls. 220 buyers	
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDING.									
Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ltd.	25,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ none \$14,516 }	none	First year	8 %	Tls. 100	
Major House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai)	20,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$500,000 \$15,127 }	\$9,028	\$24 for year ended 30.6.1905	13 1/2 %	\$31 buyers	
Central Stores, Limited	6,000	\$15	\$15	{ none \$15,127 }	\$4,719	\$2.40 on \$12 for 1905 .....	...	\$18 sales
Do. (new issue)	24,000	\$15	\$15	{ none \$15,127 }	none	7 % on \$74 for 1905 .....	...	\$300 buyers
Do. (Founders)	123	\$15	\$15	{ \$648,075 \$24,071 }	\$619	None .....	...	\$130
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	12,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$600,000 \$250,000 Tls. 297,283 }	\$67,839	\$5 for second half-year making \$10 for 1905	6 %	\$118	
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd.	10,000	\$100	\$100	{ Tls. 297,283 Tls. 1,935 }	Tls. 1,935	Final of \$34 making \$7 for 1905	16 1/2 %	Tls. 15	
Hotel des Colonies Company, Limited	9,000	Tls. 25	Tls. 25	{ Tls. 225,000 Tls. 1,935 }	Tls. 1,935	Final of 6 % = 10 % for 1905	10 %	\$100	
Hotel Metropole Company, Limited	2,000	\$100	\$100	{ none \$208,386 }	\$4,099	Final of \$6 making \$10	7 %	\$124	
Humphreys Estate & Finance Company, Limited	100,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$50,000 \$50,000 }	\$5,070	80 cents for 1905	7 %	\$39	
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited	6,000	\$50	\$50	{ none Tls. 869,493 }	\$574	\$24 for 1905	6 1/2 %	\$1154 sales	
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	12,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 170,000 Tls. 170,000 }	Tls. 52,194	Final of Tls. 3 making Tls. 6 for 1905	5 1/2 %	Tls. 1154 sales	
West Point Building Company, Limited	12,500	\$50	\$50	{ none Tls. 170,000 }	\$772	Final of \$1.90 making \$3.65 for 1905	7 %	\$63	
COTTON MILLS.									
Kwo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ltd.	15,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 45,939 \$30,000 }	Tls. 100,000	Tls. 8 for year ended 31.10.1905	11 1/2 %	Tls. 70 sellers	
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Company, Limited	125,000	\$10	\$10	{ Tls. 45,939 \$30,000 }	\$23,264	\$1 for the year ending 31.7.05	7 %	\$14	
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	10,000	Tls. 75	Tls. 75	{ Tls. 100,000 Tls. 18,456 }	Tls. 18,718	3 % a/c 1898 .....	...	Tls. 63 sellers
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ none Tls. 18,456 }	Tls. 30,760	Tls. 8 for 1905	10 1/2 %	Tls. 74 sellers	
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	7,000	Tls. 500	Tls. 500	{ Tls. 18,456 Tls. 18,456 }	Tls. 35,986	Tls. 25 for 1905	8 %	Tls. 310 buyers	
MISCELLANEOUS.									
Anglo-German Brewery Company, Limited	4,000	\$100	\$100	{ none £314 }	\$1,066	\$7 for 1905	7 1/2 %	\$95 sellers	
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited	8,604	12/6	12/6	{ \$1,032 \$9,000 }	\$1,066	1/3 per share for 1904	9 %	\$74 buyers	
Campbell, Moore & Co., Limited	1,200	\$10	\$10	{ none \$9,000 }	Nil.	\$3 for 1905	9 1/2 %	\$32	
China-Borneo Company, Limited	60,000	\$12	\$12	{ none Tls. 50,000 }	Nil.	\$1 for 1904	12 1/2 %	Tls. 79 sales	
China Flour Mill Co., Limited	4,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 50,000 Tls. 50,000 }	Tls. 889	Final of Tls. 5 making Tls. 10 for 1905	6 %	\$10 buyers	
China Light and Power Company, Limited	100,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$8,000 \$5,000 }	\$1,210	60 cents for year ended 28.2.06	9 %	\$9	
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company, Ltd.	100,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$8,000 \$5,000 }	\$1,581	80 cents for 1905	7 1/2 %	\$16	
Dairy Farm Company, Limited	25,000	\$74	\$6	{ \$510,000 \$500,000 }	\$2,884	\$1.20 for year ending 31.7.1905	8 1/2 %	\$284	
Green Island Cement Company, Limited	150,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$1,500,000 \$186,000 }	\$52,291	\$2 dividend and 50 cents bonus for 1905	11 1/2 %	\$22 sales	
Hall & Holtz, Limited	21,000	\$20	\$20	{ none \$186,000 }	\$20,893	\$24 for year ending 28.2.06	8 %	\$15	
Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	60,000	\$10	\$10	{ none \$50,000 }	\$2,568	65 cents for 10 months ending 28.2.06	6 1/2 %	\$235	
Hongkong High-Level Tramways Company, Ltd.	1,250	\$100	\$100	{ \$50,000 \$80,000 }	\$2,796	\$15 for year ending 30.11.1904	8 %	\$240 buyers	
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$80,000 \$61,000 }	\$3,776	Final of \$15 making \$19 for 1905	6 1/2 %	\$20	
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	50,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$50,000 \$2,500 }	\$5,813	\$9 for 1905 on 5 shares	11 %	\$9	
Hongkong Steam Waterboat Company, Limited	15,000	\$10	\$10	{ Tls. 547,500 Tls. 27,603 }	Tls. 10,374	Final of 50 cents making \$1 for the year 1906	10 %	Tls. 2274 ex div	
Maatschappij tot Mijl-, Bosch- en Landbouw- exploitatie in Langkat, Limited	25,000	Gs. 100	Gs. 100	{ Tls. 27,603 Tls. 27,603 }	Dr. P. 34,324	None .....	...	\$5 buyers
Philippine Company, Limited	67,500	\$10	\$10	{ none Tls. 165,000 }	Tls. 11,017	{ Tls. 34 final & Tls. 14 bonus making Tls. 48 for 1905 }	6 1/2 %	Tls. 135 sellers	
Shanghai Gas Company, Limited	16,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 45,000 Tls. 37,000 }	Tls. 9,751	Tls. 6 for 1904	11 %	Tls. 55 sellers	
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.	5,400	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 45,000 Tls. 37,000 }	Tls. 2,753	Final of Tls. 8 making Tls. 14 for 1905	9 1/2 %	Tls. 150 sellers	
Shanghai Pulp and Paper Company, Limited	4,500	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 8,000 Tls. 24,820 Tls. 25,000 }	Tls. 1,452	Final of Tls. 3 making Tls. 5 for 1905	7 %	Tls. 72 buyers	
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 20	Tls. 20	{ Tls. 25,000 Tls. 25,000 }	Tls. 85,592	Final of 37/6 making 52/6 for 1905/6 .....	...	Tls. 370 sellers
Shanghai Waterworks Company, Limited	7,200	£20	£20	{ Tls. 190,000 Tls. 190,000 }	Tls. 85,592	First year .....	...	Tls. 280 sales
South China-Morning Post, Limited	7,200	£20	£20	{ none Tls. 190,000 }	Dr. \$41,934	None	8 1/2 %	\$6	
Steam Laundry Company, Limited	6,000	\$25	\$25	{ none Tls. 15,295 }	\$1,134	50 cents for year ended 31.5.05	8 1/2 %	\$6	
Tientsin Waterworks Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 15,295 Tls. 4,000 }	Tls. 1,012	Interim of Tls. 4 for year 1905/6	7 1/2 %	Tls. 110	
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited	9,900	\$10	\$4	{ Tls. 4,000 \$22,000 }	\$551	{ 80 cents \$19.80 } for year ended 31.5.1905	9 %	\$9	
Do. (Founders)	100	\$10	\$10	{ \$300,000 \$25,000 }	\$7,734	Final of 50 cents making \$1 for 1905	7 1/2 %	\$13 buyers	
Watson, (A. S.) & Co., Limited	90,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$300,000 \$25,000 }	\$7,734	Interim div. of 50 cts. for the year 1905/6	10 %	\$104 sellers	
William Powell, Limited	15,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$4,500 \$4,500 }	\$676	...	...	...